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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 22ND DECEMBER.

WE GIVE a prominent insertion to the following letter from Mr. John Dacosta on Dr. Hunter's lecture :

London, November 19, 1879.

SIR,—Your remarks in last Monday's *Scotsman* will have shown to your readers that Dr. Hunter, in his lectures on "What the English have done for India" presented an entirely one-sided view of the subject; and your correspondent "An Old Anglo-Indian" has placed in so clear a light what experience and authorities have indicated as our best policy with regard to Afghanistan that it is impossible, after reading his admirable letter, not to perceive the fallacy of Dr. Hunter's comparison between the Punjab and Afghanistan and the impropriety of the bravado implied in his declaration that "Indian administrators did not desire the annexation of Afghanistan and did not dread it." It is to be hoped that those who will have to decide the question will be guided by reason and experience not by desire or dread.

Dr. Hunter's exposition so far as it went, was not only one-sided but inaccurate. "A century of British rule" he says "has not only secured the Indian frontier from invaders, but has freed the interior from brigandage." Yet during the last twelve month, as may be seen from the Indian papers, bands of dacoits have up to the latest dates been constantly committing depredations, and keeping in fear entire districts in the Bombay Presidency; while Chendria's band in the Madras territory, has for a year or more pillaging villages and acting in open rebellion against the Government.

Dr. Hunter also drew attention to the small amount of crime in Bengal but said nothing on the state of other provinces. The following figures taken from the last Administration Report of the Madras Presidency will show to what an appalling extent crime there has increased of late. The number of cases reported under the Penal Code amounted in 1876 to 131,304; in 1877 to 180,580; increase 49,276. The prisoners dealt with by the various criminal courts were in 1876, 367,461; in 1877, 475,735; increase 108,274.

Moreover in order to give an idea of the development of agriculture under British rule Dr. Hunter said—"A hundred years ago there was more land in Bengal than there were cultivators to till it. This state of things is now exactly reversed. . . . The first great land law of 1793 defined the rights of the proprietors against the State; the second of 1859 defined the rights of the cultivators as against the proprietors." Doubtless the fact declared and the cause assigned are both correct as regards Bengal. The law of 1793, by permanently fixing the land-tax and leaving to the landholders the surplus they might obtain from their fields encouraged the application of capital to agriculture and led to [illegible] in that province. But what is the state of the other provinces where a similar law was not passed and where the land-tax is still periodically revised and liable to arbitrary enhancements? The Administration Reports show that, under the pressure of the revenue demand, the agricultural classes have been impoverished, much land has fallen out of cultivation and the land revenue has suffered to a serious extent. The last reports show that in Bombay the extent of arable land not taken up for cultivation amounted in 1877-78 in the surveyed districts alone—i. e. in about half that Presidency—to 2,238 272 acres; and that in Madras 3,311.834 acres had fallen out of cultivation in a single year—i. e. since 1876-77. And as regards the land revenue out of a demand of £4,219,773 in Madras only £2,785.131 could be collected up to the end of the year. And it is worthy of note as showing the injurious effects of periodical revisions and arbitrary assessments of the land-tax that the losses which the revenue suffers every year arise only in respect of the annually assessed lands the revenue of the tracts permanently settled in the Madras Presidency being as a rule always realisable without any deduction.

My object in stating the above facts is not only to show that the pictures presented in Dr. Hunter's lectures was overdrawn, but to call attention to the urgent necessity which exists for reform as attested by the decline in agriculture, the decrease in the revenue and the increase of crime which have characterised the records of our administration of late years.—I am, &c.

J. DACOSTA

THE FOLLOWING changes in the Public Works Department are notified in the last *Calcutta Gazette*.:

The following revised arrangements of Circles and Public Works Divisions in the Provincial (General) Branch consequent on reduction of Public Works expenditure will be carried into effect from the 1st January 1880 :

I. The Northern Circle of Superintendency will be abolished and the Public Works Divisions which are comprised in it will be transferred to the Circles specified below :—

Bhagulpore Division to the North Western Circle.
Darjeeling Division to the Presidency Circle.
Rajshahye and Julpigoree Divisions to the North-Eastern Circle.

II. The Presidency and Burdwan Divisions of Public Works will be amalgamated into one Executive charge and will be designated the Burdwan Division.

III. The roads and buildings in the Midnapore District, now attached to the Burdwan Division will be transferred to the Contai Division Irrigation Branch.

IV. The Circular and Eastern Canals Division now attached to the Presidency Circle, and the Nuddea Rivers Division at present attached to the North-Eastern Circle will be transferred to the South-Western Circle of the Irrigation Branch.

V. The Mozufferpore Division of Public Works will be abolished as a separate executive charge and the buildings in the Sarun and Chumparun Districts will be transferred to the Gunduk Division Irrigation Branch and those in the Mozufferpore and Durbhunga Districts to the Patna Division.

The designation of circles in the General Branch and of the following Divisions will be as stated below from the 1st January 1880 :—

Present Designation	*Revised Designation*
Presidency Circle	Central Circle.
North-Eastern ,,	Eastern ,,
North-Western ,,	Western ,,
Third Calcutta Division	Second Calcutta Division.
Fourth Calcutta ,,	Third Calcutta. ,,

MR. SAKURAI, a Japanese youth, who has been studying chemistry and natural philosophy at the London University, took a first class prize and received a scholarship of £50 for two years. Messrs. Iriye and Sagisaka, two other Japanese youths, who have completed their studies at the Middle Temple, have been enrolled Barristers-at-Law, and Messrs. Fusuichi, Okino, and Yamaguchi, also from Japan, who have completed their studies at an institute in Paris, have been created Civil Engineers. So Japan is ahead.

THE EDINBURGH MEDICAL JOURNAL thus notices Doctor Sakharam Arjune's catalogue of drugs :

"It is really a work on the Materia Medica of Bombay bazaars. We have not only a complete list of the native drugs found in the bazaars of Bombay, but a description of the parts employed and their medicinal uses. The *Marathi*, or native name is also given to each substance. The work will be of great service to all practitioners in India and will be read with interest and profit by all who devote special attention to the study of Materia Medica."

Babu Kanyelal Dey Rai Bahadur of this city is also doing good service by assisting the Government with his special knowledge of Indian drugs in the practical experiments thereof.

THE RATE of fever mortality is increasing in the North Western Provinces and Oudh. It is thus distributed among the districts. Aligarh, 40,057, Bulandshar, 36,099, Meerut, 28,766, Budaun, 19,073, Agra, 17,533, Etah, 16,808, Hardoi, 14,248, Shahjehanpore, 14,203, Moradabad, 14,014, Mainpuri, 13,503, Bareilly, 12,101, Muttra, 12,002, Farukhabad, 11,514, Cawnpore, 10,429, Unao, 10,259, and so down. Lucknow had only 5,330 deaths, and all Kumaun, Ghurhwal, and the Terai only 1,765. In the Punjab, in October last, there were 91,727 deaths, of which no less than 78,873 were due to fevers.

TUESDAY, 23RD DECEMBER.

THE TIME seems to be approaching when Indian tobacco will really be placed in competition with American. The progress in the North-West last year was very encouraging, and an official report just issued shows the enterprise is now conducted on a rather extensive scale. Five Europeans, or Americans, were engaged on the operations connected with experiments at Ghazipur and Pussa; the area cultivated being 239 acres, and the estimated outturn of curred leaf 165,000lb. During the latter portion of the year natives were instructed in the various and complicated details for manufacturing, and at the present time every class of manufactured tobacco is being turned out. It is said that there is no kind of tobacco, smoking mixture or cake, which cannot be manufactured of a quality equal to that of the same class of American, while for this country the Indian brands are likely to prove superior to the American, since it is well-known that America does not ship her best qualities to the Indian market. Orders have come from Australia, and arrangements have been made to send consignments to New Zealand of the manufactured smoking tobaccos; while a new market is not unlikely to open in France, for the French Government have already asked for and received samples, which they have pronounced to be better than any they have had from India before, and they have shown their practical appreciation of its quality by asking for a larger consignment for trial, to the extent of 1,000 or 1,500 lbs.

THE POPULATION of the globe, it is stated, may be roughly assumed at 1,421,000,000, and is divided thus :—Europe, 309,000,000; Asia, 824,000,000; Africa, 199,000,000; Oceania, 4,000,000; America, 85,000,000. It has been calculated from the mortality tables of known countries that the annual number of deaths throughout the world is 85,693,350, or that, in other words, 97,790 persons die each day. On the other hand, the balance of population is more than kept up by births at the rate of 104,800 per day. Seventy new lives are ushered in every minute of the 24 hours.

WE ARE glad to see it stated that the Board of Directors of the East India Railway Company have approved of the manner in which the few native Guards, who were experimentally employed on the line, have performed their duties, and have desired their more extensive employment in the Company's service. It is added that sobriety has been on the ascendant ever since the Europeans have been alarmed by the probable substitution of native agency in their place.

HIS GRACE the Duke of Buckingham is making a tour through Madras. At Caddalore His Grace received an address of welcome in which the following reference was made to the license-tax :

We trust we may be pardoned for bringing to your Grace's notice one or two little grievances in hopes of obtaining redress from your Grace's Government. The first is, that we have to pay a tax on trades and professions to the Municipality, besides an Imperial License Tax to Government. We are aware that the former was imposed, with the sanction of your Grace's Government for the purpose of meeting the cost of the Town Police, but we submit most respectfully that this double taxation bears hardly upon us whatever may be its object, inasmuch as we never before had to pay any special tax on the above account, and the circumstances of the inhabitants of this Municipality are generally much poorer than those of the people of other Municipalities.

This complaint against double taxation is just. It exists in most first class Municipalities, where a double License-Tax is levied.

THE SAME address contains the following remarks on the Religious Endowments :

The other matter which we wish to submit for your Grace's consideration is the management of the Hindu Davastanams. During the time of the Hindu Rajas, whose place the British Government now supplies, the entire control over these institutions was retained in the hands of the ruling authority, and it is the absence of such control at present that has led to much abuse in the management of these institutions and the misappropriation of the valuable funds forming their endowments. Your Grace, fully recognizing the importance of this matter, has already taken steps in the direction of legislating for their better administration, and we only hope that this work of reform may be speedily brought to a completion, and that we may have the pleasure of seeing, during your Grace's administration, our beloved religious institutions restored to their former efficient condition.

But the Government is afraid of Exeter Hall, and shirks its responsibility by urging that the endowments are connected with idolatry. Has the British Government in India as such any religion of its own?

THE FOLLOWING important decision was delivered by the Madras High Court in the Great License-Tax case :

The Municipal Act requires the President to determine in what classes persons ought to be placed to be taxed. The words "ought to be" shew that there should be some principle by which the President should be guided. The principle is different in respect of the different classes. In the case of Joint Stock Companies the basis upon which the assessment is made is capital and in the case of ordinary companies it is the amount of their gross earnings. With regard to the salaried classes the salaries or earnings are taken as the guide. Salaries are capable of being ascertained, but the income of Joint Stock Companies is not easily ascertainable, therefore capital is made the basis of assessment. As to the other classes their earnings are different and fluctuate. So the Legislature has left it to the discretion of President to determine the proper class in which non-salaried persons ought to be placed comparing their earnings with the incomes of salaried persons. It is very true as was pointed out by the learned Advocate-General, that there are omissions in some of the classes, but such omission was not sufficient to shew that income to be the principle which should guide the President in his assessment. Their Lordships held income or earnings should be the principle by which the President should be guided. Their Lordships also held that the Magistrates had equal power with the President under the Act to revise the classification under the schedule. Their Lordships further held that the respondent was rightly placed by the Magistrates in class V. and assessed at 15 Rupees a month. Their Lordships were disposed to grant the respondent costs, but it was pointed out to them that the question of costs should under the Act be left for the decision of the Magistrates.

There are several important points in this judgment which may be taken into consideration by the Vice-regal Council in settling the License-*cum*-Income Tax Bill.

WEDNESDAY, 24TH DECEMBER.

WHEN THE District Savings Banks were established, the yearly rate of interest on deposits therein was fixed at $3\frac{3}{4}$ per centum, and the monthly rate at one pie for each rupee $1\frac{3}{5}$. The market rate of interest being now higher, it is notified that, from the 1st January 1880, the monthly rate of interest on diposits in District, Presidency, and Military Savings Banks will be one pie for each $1\frac{1}{2}$ Rupee, which is equal to Rs. $4\frac{1}{6}$ per cent. per annum. It would be as well to raise the maximum amount of deposit.

DR. PLANCK makes the following remarks on fever mortality in the N. W. P.: "The extraordinary mortality recorded in this month has been due entirely to epidemic prevalence of remittent fever of a very severe type. It is likely that the prevalence

reached its height in October, as a decided decrease in the number and severity of the cases has been recorded during the succeeding month of November."

THE FOLLOWING is a description of the Sherepur cantonment in which General Roberts' army is entrenched :

Within two miles of the City of Cabul on the north, lies the Bemaru range. This consists of a couple of large conglomerate hills running in a perfectly straight line east and west. These cover a mile of ground in length and are about 250 feet high, sharp and well defined. With both flanks resting on the extremities runs a line of splendidly built barracks in a semicircular form thus giving the cantonments the shape of the figure of the letter D. These barracks are quite new, extend nearly 2000 yards in length the rooms being 13 feet broad and the outer verandah also 13 feet wide. It is calculated that there is sufficient accommodation in them for 5,500 Europeans without including verandahs. About 200 yards of one flank of these barracks is clean blown away by the explosion of a magazine on the 7th ultimo, by the mutinous troops on their quitting Sherepur to occupy the heights above Cabul. The roof of this long line of barracks has a parapet running all along it, whilst forty feet outside facing the city runs a very thick lofty defensible mud wall utterly unassailable except by artillery. At the distance of every four hundred yards in this are fine magnificent gateways which of course have been appropriated by the staffs of the various brigadiers.

The ground enclosed between the Bemaru hills and this long line of fortified barracks is perfectly flat and level, and highly cultivated. A large canal runs through the centre of this land and every hundred yards is irrigated by a branch canal or *rajbarh*.

DR. RUSSELL, writing from the Transvaal Republic in South Africa, gives a fearful account of the conduct of the British soldiers there, stating that they commit "housebreaking, burglary, assault and robbery" continually ; that the local magistrates of all the towns in which the troops have been quartered have complained loudly of these outrages ; that "there is not a house in Heidelberg, close at hand, which has not been broken into, with two or three exceptions, and other stations are nearly as bad," he writes from Pretoria, and lastly, that it will be a happy day for South Africa, when the last imperial soldier has left it. These are grave charges calling for a grave enquiry.

THE FOLLOWING extract is from the Duke of Argyll's new memorable speech at Leeds :

"Lord Beaconsfield and his colleagues are responsible for the policy of Lord Lytton. He is nothing but a tool in their hands ; and even if it were not so—if he were alone responsible for the policy carried out in Afghanistan, yet as they have defended his action in Parliament they have made themselves responsible, and therefore I blame them, and not Lord Lytton. I accuse the Government of India of deceit in their conduct to the Amir of Afghanistan. The Government pretend that the Afghan war was caused by the reception in Kabul of the Russian Mission. This is not the case. They had come to a fixed determination to pick a quarrel with the Amir, fourteen months before the Russian Mission was received at Kabul, and it was the conduct they pursued which drove the Amir into the arms of Russia

This is very plain speaking, and coming from the late Secretary of State, and the father of the Queen's son-in-law, it has a deep significance.

THE MORTUARY return of the Suburbs of Calcutta for the month of November 1879 shows the number of deaths to be 1221 viz., 689 males and 532 females exhibiting an increase of 400 in the number recorded in the previous month, but a decrease of 1114 in the corresponding month of the last year. Of the above number of 1221 there were 18 Christians, 723 Hindus and 480 Mohamedans. The ratio of deaths per 1000 of the population is 56·97. The number of deaths caused by cholera was 75, by small-pox 2, by fever 672, by bowel complaints 193, and the rest were due to causes other than those mentioned above. The number of deaths in Hospitals, Jails and other Public Institutions in the Suburbs was 232 against 886 in the previous month and the ratio per 1000 of the population is 10·82.

THURSDAY, 25TH DECEMBER.

WE OBSERVE that Mr. G. C. Paul, and Mr. Pitt-Kennedy have been appointed Additional Members of the Governor General's Legislative Council. What has become of Mr. Reynolds' appointment ? Is Mr. Whitley Stokes opposed to the appointment of a Bengal Civilian to the Council ? Perhaps the Bengal Civilian is too independent for him.

THE MHARAJA OF HUTWA has given the following donations to the under-mentioned charitable Institutions in Calcutta :

		Rs
To St. Vincent de Paul's Society	...	200
,, District Charitable Society	...	300
,, The Calcutta Free School	...	150
,, The Entally Orphanage	...	150
,, The Moorgheehatta Orphanage	...	150
,, The Town Band Fund	...	300
For the Christmas Dinner to the Moorgheehatta and Entally male and female orphans	...	100
For building a School-house for native children at Toltollah	...	100

The cost of the ball to be given by the Maharaja is estimated at Rs. 40,000. We wish the Maharaja had given the whole of this sum to charitable purposes.

THE MADRAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE has protested against the Trades and Professions tax in the following terms :

The Chamber would remark that the new Act virtually imposes an Income Tax on Trades and Professions, and, this being so, it seems to the Chamber invidious that the Government should exclude from the operation of the Act those classes who derive their incomes from land or Government Securities. Some of the wealthiest classes in the country thus escape from the pressure of the tax. On the whole, this Chamber, I am desired to say, would prefer a general Income Tax to the present scheme of taxation.

As it is observed that the Finance Minister proposes to bring the Trades and Professions Tax Bill into force on the 1st January next the Chamber would request that the above representations may be submitted to the Supreme Government without delay. At the same time the Chamber would impress upon the Government of India the impolicy of hurrying a measure of so much importance through the Legislative Council. In view of the desirability of some degree of finality in financial legislation, and in justice to the classes who will come under operation of the Trades and Professions Tax, the Chamber trust that the Bill now before the Government of India, will be considered with deliberation, and amended in such a way as to make it more generally acceptable to tax-payers.

THE GOVERNMENT, it appears, has condemned the Calcutta Police in connection with the Dessa affair. The *Englishman* furnishes the following report on the subject :

It appeared to the Government rather strange that a madman should be allowed to fire so many shots without being at once arrested. Had it not been for Captain Rose and Sir Pomeroy Colley one of whom had very narrowly escaped, as the whiz of the shot had passed very close Dessa would have in all probability escaped. They did not see the person who fired, but alighted from their carriage and went in the direction where they saw the smoke. Even when they arrived on the spot, they would not have known who the person was that had discharged the fire-arm, but for a West Indian named Nelson by profession a Stevedore, who pointed him out to Captain Rose. It was the opinion of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor that the Police had been guilty of a gross dereliction of duty and the constables on the spot deserved to be punished for the apathy shown by them. The Commissioner of Police has submitted his explanation, from which it would appear, that the constables had neither seen Dessa fire nor heard the reports owing to the noise caused by the crowd of vehicles and the usual hubub of the spectators. The spectators who had seen Dessa fire were panic stricken, and either from fear or excitement had made no attempt to arrest him. The attention of the Police on all such occasions was wholly and entirely directed to what was passing before them and to keep away the crowd so that the road was not obstructed. Even the spectators who were close to the man appeared to have been so very attentive in looking at the cortege that they had neither seen nor heard the shots.

FRIDAY, 26TH DECEMBER.

MR. FREEMAN, the historian, delivered an address to the members of the Manchester Reform Club on "The Policy of England in South-Eastern Europe." When men, he said in the course of his remarks, went in deliberately for a rule of blood and falsehood, went about the world attacking every Power they could, pandered to the worst passions of the people, and sought to prolong their power by stirring up the wicked war feeling, and when the words of a Cabinet Minister carried with them a presumption of falsehood, we had got beyond the region of political differences and entered the region of moral obliquity.

DURING Mr. Gladstone's speech at West Calder some interruptions were occasioned by the whistling of a steam engine which had come to a stand on the line just outside the pavilion. The noise having been repeated once or twice, a fine, elderly Scotch working man, misunderstanding, and suspecting Toryism, rose from the side wing of the platform, and in a stentorian voice demanded that they should "put out that whistler."

THE LAST NUMBER of the *Nineteenth Century* contains a very readable article on the Domesday Book of Bengal. It has boiled down the valuable statistics of Dr. Hunter's *Gazetteers* within the compass of a single article.

M. RAOUL BRULLE has come forward with a new method of treating the urinous portion of town sewage in preparing it for manure, for which he claims numerous advantagas over those hitherto in use. The oldest system is probably the Flemish, which consists in conveying the excreta away from the town and storing them in large masonry tanks with the addition of water. In Paris the sewage is deposited at Lavillette, thence to be directed by machine power through a long conduit to Bondy, where it lies in pools to ferment. In this manner its urea is transformed into carbonate of ammonia, from which the sulphate is obtained by distillation, while the solid matters are compressed and dried, and these sold as "poudrettes." Another system is the direct application of the urine to the irrigation of the soil, as practised on the plain of Gennevilliers. M. Brulle's system is based, on the one hand, on the property of plaster to absorb, and thus reduce to a solid form large quantities of urine ; and, on the other, on the greatly increased quantity of fertilising matter which can be introduced into the medium, by subjecting the plaster

to repeated saturations, and driving off the superfluous moisture after each operation by means of hot air. In this way a solid manure can be obtained containing 5 per cent. of nitrogen and 1 to 2 per cent. of phosphoric acid, rich in fertilizing elements easy of transport, and containing not only five times as much nitrogen and phosphoric acid as fresh urine itself, but also all the mineral salts of the urine, which have a certain manurial value. In addition to these economic advantages, the process is absolutely free from all objections upon sanitary grounds. We invite the attention of Indian Municipalities to this system.

THE ARCTIC CAMPAIGN of 1879, in the Barens Sea, was the subject of a paper, by Captain A. H. Markham, read at a meeting of the Royal Geographical Society. Lord Northbrook presided, and a discussion which followed was participated in by the Netherlands Minister, Sir H. Gore Booth, Sir Leopold McClintock, Sir G. Nares, Admiral Hamilton, and Captain Fielden.

SATURDAY, 27TH DECEMBER.

WE HAVE received the prospectus of a new medical journal to be called the *Calcutta Medical News*. It is projected by Messrs. S. D. Mallik and Co. We wish the projectors every success.

AT THE LAST meeting of the Calcutta Corporation the Budget for 1880 was passed. The several rates were fixed at the sums we mentioned in a previous issue. There will be an apparent deficit of Rs. 41,000, but the Collector is making tremendous efforts to push on his collections, and if the X'mas vacation had not fallen in the meantime, he would have been successful. If he, however, can net Rs. 40,000 more within the remaining few days there will be no deficit. The Municipal Commissioners deserve great credit for extinguishing the debts and deficits of the preceding two years in a single year.

WE HEAR that Sir Steuart Bayley will pay a flying visit to Calcutta with a view to confer with the Viceroy about the Naga affair. He is expected on the 15th instant.

THE *Pioneer* thus writes about the new Octori Bill :

The more one examines Sir John Strachey's new municipal Bill, the clearer it becomes that its result will be to abolish octroi altogether. If this is intended, it should be done honestly by a brief and simple clause, instead of by cumbrous and troublesome machinery which will inevitably arrive at the same end.

Perhaps Sir John thinks that honesty is *not* always the best policy.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE thus delivers himself in his last Administration Report on the Native Press of Bombay :

In the whole body of the native press, journals of two distinct classes are to be found. The first, comprising the organs of the better educated persons of the native community and their associations in the large towns are edited very fairly, and usually contain at least one good leading article on a well-chosen topic of the day. The opinions of the society they represent are as a rule moderately and ably set forth, though there are special subjects in writing on which habit has given them an objectionable tone not found in articles on other topics. The second class of papers stand on a lower level and appeal to the sympathies and intellects of a less educated section of the native public. The criticisms passed on official views or actions by journals of this class are frequently couched in a tone of jealous opposition indicating discontent rather than actual disloyalty.

What is considered "objectionable tone" by Sir Richard Temple? We wish His Excellency had been explicit on this point. It is, however, gratifying to observe that His Excellency does not consider any class of native papers in Bombay "actually disloyal."

WITH REGARD to the surplus cash balances of the Baroda State, an Anglo-Marathi contemporary hears that the 80 lakhs deposited now for a long time past with the Bank of Bombay "are deposited on condition that the Government of the Gaikwar should receive only the interest accruing thereon and not the sum deposited if required." This sounds very odd. Then it is said that the Baroda Treasury was amongst the largest purchasers of the Government of India's last loan ; and perhaps much of the eighty lakhs may have been so invested. The *Bombay Review* justly remarks that, if this were so, the last Administration Report of the State ought to exhibit that. Whichever of these surmises may be nearer correctness, the fact of such large funds being diverted from Gujrat must have its effect on trade in the province.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London, December 21st.—At a Conservative demonstration held at Leeds, Sir Stafford Northcote made a long speech, during which he exposed the fallacy of Mr. Gladstone's late financial comparisons. With respect to the British policy in Afghanistan, he said that it was not a policy of annexation but of defence tranquillizing India and relieving future anxieties. The maintenance of the Afghan power would interpose between us and any foreign approach to the Indian frontier, and therefore we had no option but to carry out our enter-

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prise in that direction. Recent events, he said, do not affect the principles of the Treaty of Ganadamak. Both the Indian and the Home Governments were doing everything to promote the success of the British arms, and would keep nothing concealed from the public. Mr. Stanhope in a speech said that there was nothing in connexion with Indian Finance to cause alarm. He eulogized the conduct of the gallant army now contending against enormous odds at Kabul and said he felt no fear as regards the ultimate result of the contest. The latest advices from Capetown state that the British have captured Secocoeni's stronghold :—Two officers were killed, and four wounded, in storming the position.

24th.—The Archbishop of Canterbury has ordered a prayer to be offered up for the troops in Afghanistan. The recorder of Leeds has been appointed Public Prosecutor. The Liquidator of the Glasgow Bank has notified his intention of paying the balance due to the creditors without interest. The Steamer *Borussia*, bound from Liverpool to New Orleans has been lost in a tempest with 200 lives. The India Office announces the conversion of the 5 per cents. to 4 per cent. securities, redeemable at par on the 10th October 1888. Holders not accepting these terms will be paid off next July.

23rd.—Mr. Waddy, the Liberal Candidate, has been elected member of Parliament, by a narrow majority, for Sheffield.

25th.—Later particulars respecting the taking of Secocoeni's stronghold state that he surrendered himself prisoner. The Troopship *Euphrates* left Portsmouth for Bombay on the 24th with 1,200 troops.

Paris, December 21st.—The French Ministry has resigned. M. De Freycinet, late Public Works Minister, has accepted the task of forming a new Ministry.

23rd.—Mr. Freycinet, who had accepted the task of forming a new ministry, has since declined. M. Waddington has been asked to form a new Ministry.

St. Petersburg, December 25th.—The Russian Ambassadors at the different Foreign Courts have been assembled here.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, in noticing Dr. Rajendralala Mitra's work on Buddha Gaya, thus describes its author : "The author, being a native of India, has some advantages on his side. He is a Brahmin, and familiar with Sanskrit, and the literature of his own country, on which he draws for information. At the same time he shows a thorough knowledge of the art and architecture of the Buddhist and Brahminic periods. When it is added that the author writes English as if it were his own native tongue, the merits of the book may be appreciated. But to those interested in such subjects, a reading of it is recommended as the best means of realising the ability and learning of its author." So the mistake first made by Max Muller in describing Dr. Mitra as a Brahmin, still holds its ground. The learned Doctor is a Kayastha and it is the more creditable to him that he is *facile princeps* in the literature of the Brahmins.

AMONG the festivities which went to cheer the hearts of the weary and the fatigued on Christmas day we may notice precisely the dinner provided for the inmates of the Alms-house and the House of Industry in Amherst Street. It was a very welcome treat and was very considerately provided by the Central Committee for gladdening the lonely hours of a pitiable class on the great festival day of the Christians. The dinner was supplied by the Great Eastern Hotel Company at a nominal cost and every arrangement was most satisfactory and faultless. After the grace an address of thanks was read by the president of the inmates at the dinner table and presented to the Superintendent for communication to the Central Committee, the Secretary and Assistant Secretary of the Society. The address was signed by 51 inmates.

WE UNDERSTAND that the following Deputy Collectors, one of whom is under suspension, have been called upon with reference to the Nuddea Road Cess defalcations, to explain why they should not make good the sums lost to the Road Cess Fund on account of their neglect in passing forged cheques : Babu Kali Prosunno Sircar, Babu Durga Das Chowdry, Babu Poreshnath Sookul, and Babu Lolit Mohun Chatterjea. The irregularity for which they are made responsible lies in having passed cheques signed by the Chairman only instead of being signed by both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications : 1. Selections from the records of the Government of India, Home Revenue, and Agricultural Department. No. 150. The Wheat Production and Trade of India. 2. Progress Report of Forest Administration in the Central Provinces, for 1878-79. 3. Ditto Ditto in the Hyderabad Assigned Districts for 1878-79. 4. The Rajputana-Gazetteer. Vol II. 5. Report on the Trade and Resources of the Central Provinces for 1878-79. 6. Review of the Trade of British India with other countries for 1878-79. 7. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal for November, 1879, No. IX. 8. Elementary Dynamics in Urdu for the use chiefly of the high proficient Students of the Punjab University College. By S. B. Mookerjee, M. A. B. A., 9. The Barripore Charitable Dispensary established in 1851 by Bussantakumar Roy, Chowdry. 10. Journal of the National Indian Association, No. 108, December, 1879. 11. Patrabodha or Letter Writer in Hindee, for the use of Schools. By Pundit Behary Lal Chaube. 12. The Suddarshana Chintanika or studies in Indian Philosophy. Vol. 3, No. 8. August 1879. 13. Prospectus of the Scientific Indian to be published quarterly. 14. Prospectus of the Calcutta Medical News.

The Hindoo Patriot

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1879.

NATIVE CIVIL SERVICE.

THE Civil Service question has been set at rest for the present. The Government of India has come to the decision that the natives of India should not be admitted to the covenanted Civil Service, under the rules published in July last. According to the commentary framed by the Governor General in Council, and sanctioned by Her Majesty's Secretary of State, the proposed Native Civil servants are to form an intermediate class between the covenanted and the native executive services, very much like the intermediate class of the Railway, which is neither 'second' nor the 'third,' but closely resembling the latter. Two distinct classes of natives are to be nominated to this nondescript service; "first, probationers, i.e. young men under the age of 25, who, during their probation of two years, will have the opportunity of shewing their merit and ability, and who will be required during that period, to pass such examinations as may be prescribed, unless they are specially exempted therefrom by the Governor General in Council ; second, persons who may be above the age of 25 years and who, having already, either in the Government service or in the practice of a profession, have proved their merit and ability; these will not be required to serve any period of probation." But from the spirit of the Government Resolution it is clear that all appointments will be confined to the class of probationers, and absence of probation would occur under exceptional circumstances. The system, it is apparent, will have all the defects of the nomination system without any of its redeeming features. It will draw into the service the effete members of society who have what a Lord Chancellor of England once described as "the accident of an accident" for their recommendation, namely that of birth in the euphemistic language of Government. The main object of the rules "is not to transfer to the superior ranks of the civil administration officers of a class whose services have already been secured by Government in the inferior ranks, but to attract to the service of Government young men of good family and social position, possessed of fair abilities and education, to whom the offices open to them in the inferior ranks, or Unconvenanted Service, have not proved a sufficient inducement to come forward for employment." This object, however, cannot be attained. The attractive force, to be effectual, must be either rank or pay. The former, however, is denied by the name being changed to Native Civil Service, and the pay will not be greater than that of the Deputy Magistrates. The inevitable consequence must follow. It cannot possibly attract to the service young men of good family and social position, possessed of *fair abilities and education*. It is scarcely to be hoped that men of means will be tempted to the service by an allowance of Rs. 200 a month to begin with without even the consolation of seeing their names included in the same list with the covenanted Brahman. Pariahs they now are, and Pariahs they shall remain. In fact, it is another phase of Sir George Campbell's Native Civil Service, which turned out "neither fish, nor fowl, nor good redherring." Appointments of persons of the second class, that is persons who are already in the service of Government would be the exception. They are to be confined to persons who have obtained great distinction in the offices they have held or the professions they have followed ; persons, in short, whom the Government would spontaneously desire to appoint to superior offices. "But," adds the Government resolution, "there should be no need *to search* for officers of this class. Their merit should be so striking as naturally to suggest for responsible employment." Thus those who have committed the mistake of entering the Uncovenanted Service, though of good family and superior attainments, must be understood to have lowered themselves in the estimation of Government. But those who, having a hankering for state employment, have not hitherto had any opportunity or scope for giving effect to their wishes, will have a circumscribed field open before them for intrigue and canvass. There is one passage in these orders which is significant. The principles now ennunciated by the Supreme Government do not seem to have been understood by the local Governments making their nominations, and the Government of India has taken this opportunity to explain the matter. The order goes on to say :—"His Excellency in Council is aware that the conclusions stated in the next foregoing paragraph may not be in accordance with the anticipations based in some quarters on the provisions of the statute 33 Vic. Cap 3. Section 6. But the principles set forth have been adopted by the Government of India, and they appear clearly to coincide with the views of Her Majesty's Government." That is conclusive enough. The nominations made by the several local Governments having been carefully examined by His Excellency the Viceroy in Council, he is desirous of accepting them so far as they are consistent with the above principles.

The following are the names of the accepted nominees :—

Bombay.—Mr. Sorabji Pudumji Pestonji. He is the son of a first class Deccan Sirdar who did loyal service during the year 1857. He is 24 years of age, is an excellent English scholar, and has studied in England for two years to much advantage.

Bengal.—(1) Sutty Shree Ghosal, son of Raja Sattyanand Ghosal Bahadur, a distinguished chief of a Bengal family, knows English well, and has been ascertained to be competent and able. He is 24 years of age. (2.) Babu Nandakrishna Bose, who is already in the Government service and is an officer of proved merit and ability; and is also a relative of the Raja Komulkrishna Deb Bahadur.

N. W. P. and Oudh.—Kumar Bharat Singh and Muhammed Abas. The former is the son of Raja Bunspat Singh of Barh in the Allahabad district; he is 24 years of age, a good English scholar, speaks and writes both Urdu and Hindi well, and is a fair horseman. The latter is the son of the ex-Nazim Aja Ali Khan, who was the second man in Oudh previous to annexation, and was a most able and distinguished administrator. Mahammad Abas is a good Oriental and fair English scholar; he is 24 years old, and has recently done good service as an unpaid special Magistrate in the Fyzabad district.

Punjab.—Sirdar Gurdial Singh ; he is a cousin of the Raja of Jheend. He is a Jat Sikh; is 21 years old; and has already distinguished himself as a scholar. In 1876 he passed first of 202 Punjab candidates at the Entrance Examination, and again two years later passed head of his year at the High Proficiency Examination.

These six gentlemen will be appointed as probationers, and will receive at the commencement Rs. 200 per mensem, passing the first examination they will each receive Rs. 250 per mensem. Previous to their admission as probationers they should be examined by a medical officer of Government as to their physical fitness and freedom from constitutional disease. If any accepted nominee is reported to be physically unfit for the public service, further report should be made to the Government of India. Such as may be reported fit for the public service may be at once gazetted by the Local Government as "Probationers under the Native Civil Service Rules," and can be posted to districts and employed on civil duties in the same manner as young civil servants. Nominees, who are already in the Government Service and are on the receipt of higher pay, will continue to draw the same. Babu Nandkrishna Bose, who is already in the receipt of Rs. 250, will receive no increase until he has been confirmed. As he has already been, for a year at least in the service of Government the local Government can recommend him for confirmation after one year's further service as probationer, provided he passes the higher standard examination within that time, and is otherwise well reported on. Officers who have been appointed to posts in the Covenanted

Civil Service before the issue of the new Rules will be placed on the same footing with Native civilians in regard to pay, pension and leave. The Kumar Sahib of Durbhangha will be excluded from the seniority list of Covenanted Civil Servants, and classed with the Native civilians now appointed, and so will Sayyad Mahommed be subject to the general rules as to pay, pension, and leave applicable to Native civilians. Thes rules will not however affect existing salaries.

From these first nominations it becomes at once evident that the principle which will govern the appointment of natives to the New Civil Service will be family influence and connexion, merit and fitness will be secondary considerations, always occupying a subordinate place in the list of qualifications. There is therefore no guarantee against jobbery and favouritism, and very little prospect to aspiring young men of ability and fitness to look for employment in this Civil Service and the whole scheme has, as we had anticipated, proved a sham and delusion—utterly unworthy of the Government. It is of course meant to serve as an "eye wash," but we doubt very much if it will prove effectual even as such. It would have been infinitely more dignified if it had at once said that it is not expedient to allow the natives of this country to take charge of duties now performed by the covenanted Civil Service than to resort to such shifts.

APPELLATE BENCHES.

II.

WE gave last week a history of the movement for the establishment of Appellate Benches in Bengal, and the opinion of the Government of India on the subject. The Secretary of State as we had announced before, has vetoed the scheme. We propose to give the reasons, which the Secretary of State has assigned for the decision he has come to. With respect to the two main objects aimed at in Sir Ashley Eden's scheme of appellate benches, namely (1) improvement in the local appeal Courts, and (2) finality of decision, Lord Cranbrook expresses his hearty concurrence in the desire to effect them. But he gives his reasons why he cannot accord his sanction to it. He says that as to the nature and extent of the arrears in the High Court, there appears to be some conflict of opinion; one of the most experienced judges denies that there is any excessive pressure upon the High Court. The Chief Justice, not denying a reduction of business, thinks that it is only temporary. It is difficult to form a judgment on such a subject from the number of causes on the list. But it is probably a safe conclusion that the files of the High Court are very liable to be overcrowded, though they are not overcrowded at all times. The plan of the Lieutenant-Governor contemplates the immediate creation of four, and the eventual creation of eleven new tribunals, necessarily involving the formation of subordinate establishments, the erection of suitable Court houses, the organization, in all probability, of circuits, and many other expenses which it is not easy to particularize, against which some retrenchments may possibly be set off, but their amount must be uncertain, because it must be determined by the working of institutions of which we have as yet no experience. It is said that the revenue which is raised, under the head of Court fees, would be sufficient to defray the increased expense without the necessity of imposing fresh burdens on the people. But if this is so, it would not afford any excuses for departing from strict economy for the fee fund, when the administration of justice has been provided for, ought either to be reduced, or to be employed for other public purposes. The scheme, too, being intended to diminish the number of appeals will, if successful, diminish in the same proportion the fee fund upon which reliance is placed for the means of defraying the increased expense of the Courts. With reference to the plan for associating Native Subordinate Judges with Covenanted Civil Servants in Courts of two Judges for hearing appeals it is admitted that the Judges of the High Court have received great assistance from the Native gentlemen who have sat with them on the bench. The qualifications which are found in the Native Judges of the High Court are not, however, to be expected in every Subordinate Judge or Vakeel. It is generally thought that the native judges have improved of late years, both in knowledge of law and in general trustworthiness, and that the Subordinate Judge is a valuable public officer when he hears a cause in his own Court and records a methodical and reasoned judgment upon it. But it is not certain that he would be equally useful if called to sit as the colleague of his covenanted superior. In such a combination there are obvious difficulties of a nature peculiarly trying and likely to operate injuriously in a Court of only two Judges. Nor again is it easy to see how European Judges are to be obtained, capable of gaining for the new Courts a higher place in public estimation than that of the District Courts. The Lieutenant-Governor avers that he can only supply four Courts with duly qualified Judges where he wants to establish eleven. In the meantime there is reason to hope that through the codification of the law and the legal turn which is early given to the studies of the probationers for the Civil Service, the efficiency of the ordinary Courts will increase, and there will be less need of divisional Courts of Appeal. It is certain that a large number of second or special appeals to the High Court occur in cases of very trifling value. These would, of course, be excluded by the plan suggested and the High Court would be thereby considerably relieved. But as the second appeal for higher amounts would still be allowed, if all these second appeals were appeals on the merits, the relief would be more than counterbalanced and the High Court would again have its files overcrowded, for it appears from the papers annexed that an appeal on the merits occupies the Court on an average four times as long as an appeal on law alone. The Secretary of State is therefore of opinion that the plan of discussing the facts, as well as the law in second appeals should not be prosecuted at present. He says that supposed necessity for appeal, which has probably been unduly fostered by our own institutions, has, in fact, been disregarded without giving rise to any complaint, in the very large class of cases, which are appropriated to the Small Cause Courts, and in these which are tried in our ordinary Civil Courts, but are of the nature of Small Cause cases. No appeal lies from a decision in such cases, if the matter in dispute is under the value of 500 rupees, and the same rule prevails with regard to rent cases up to 50 rupees. The Bengal Government has, under the Bengal Civil Courts Act VI of 1871, invested with Small Cause Court jurisdiction as many of the Subordinate Judges and Moonsiffs as were thought competent. The Secretary of State accordingly suggests that the Government of India should rest satisfied with allowing to cases below a certain value (say, perhaps, in the first instance 200 rupees) and not involving the title to land, two distinct hearings on the merits, and that no further or special appeal should be permitted; but that the judge of the first appellate Court should be at liberty to state a case for the legal opinion of the High Court, and that revision should also be permitted in cases of miscarriage of the Court, patent on the face of the record, by which miscarriage substantial injustice has been done to a party. This revisional jurisdiction is given on the criminal side, and the Government of India might cause it to be adapted to civil suits, when it would form a useful check upon the proceedings of the lower Judges. But another method of procuring finality of decisions without appeal, the Secretary of State remarks, may be suggested by carrying further the system of the jurisdiction of the Courts of Small Causes. Wherever this system has been introduced under sufficient checks either from public opinion or judicial supervision, it has worked most beneficially. Undoubtedly it brings with it some evils which a costly series of appeals might obviate, but these evils on the whole are fully compensated for to poor suitors by the speed with which their causes are disposed of and by the gain, which accrues to them from their not being withdrawn from their ordinary occupations. The great improvement which has taken place of late years in the subordinate judicial establishments leads me to believe that it might be desirable to extend to every judicial officer, from the District Judge downwards a graduated small cause jurisdiction. A Judge, who on certain days of the week, exercises summary jurisdiction in small cases, but on the other days has all his proceedings subject to revision and appeal, is likely to conduct all the business of his Court with the carefulness and caution so requisite on the judicial bench. The Secretary of State further notices in the papers before him another method by which the judicial forces of the High Court can be increased viz., the appointment of some of the Judges to sit singly for the hearing of appeals. He does not think with Mr. Stokes and Mr. Justice Jackson that this method is applicable in every instance, but he says there must be very many cases to which it is adapted, and he should be glad to hear that it was more frequently resorted to.

The above is a full and faithful summary of the reasons, which have induced the Secretary of State to veto the scheme. But he seems to have forgotten that it was matured after much enquiry and deliberation. As we shewed last week it was discussed by experienced District Judges, by the Judges of the High Court, by two Lieutenant Governors, and by the Viceroy in Council, and with the exceptions of Mr. Whitley Stokes and Mr. Justice Louis Jackson who advocated single Judge both in the first instance and in appeal, there was a consensus of opinion among the other officers consulted in favour of the scheme. But the great Mogul at Westminister Hotel has by his single voice negatived this most important judicial reform. This is much to be regretted. His chief ground is finance, but the additional expenditure which the scheme would have involved was quite a bagatelle. If eleven benches were established, the total excess cost after taking into account savings would have according to the calculations of Sir Ashley Eden come to Rs. 259,144 per annum, or say at the most three lacs of rupees. But Sir Ashley did not propose to establish all the benches at once. He intended to try the experiment by establishing four benches. The additional cost would in that case have not exceeded Rs. 60,000 per annum. The Secretary of State does not feel justified to sanction this comparatively paltry sum for the promotion of a much needed judicial reform! He or Her Majesty's Government have not scrupled to involve India in an expenditure of millions for the sake of an idea—a "scientific frontier," and to surrender about one quarter of a million, and prospectively four-fifths of a million for the purpose of bribing Lancashire in order to purchase her vote at the coming elections, but he or they consider it unjustifiable to sanction an annual expenditure of Rs. 60,000 on a judicial reform, which is almost unanimously advocated by Indian judicial officers, by Government and the Indian public! It is observable that the tax on justice in India, after meeting all judicial expenditure, leaves a large surplus, and the additional cost recommended would have hardly come to two per cent. of the surplus. Still the Secretary of State says that "at a period like the present of severe financial pressure I should feel much difficulty in entertaining a scheme involving serious addition to the public expenditure, neither I was fully assured that the suggested remedies afforded better prospects of success than I can perceive in the Lieutenant Governor's proposal." We will consider the last point hereafter, but with regard to the first we have already pointed out that the so-called "serious addition to the public expenditure" would have amounted to only Rs. 60,000 per annum. Strange to say that the Secretary of State, who felt no qualms of conscience in spending money like water on the Affghan expedition, and in deliberately sacrificing revenue for a low party purpose, could not reconcile to his sense of duty and justice the task of sanctioning a little more than half a lac of rupees for the experimental adoption of a most important judicial reform in Bengal. This only reminds us of the old proverb—swallow a camel but strain at a gnat. There is another consideration involved in this question. The subject under notice is one of local importance, of internal administration. It involves no issues of imperial policy. In a matter like this it is to be presumed that the local officers, the local Government and the local public are in a better position to form a satisfactory opinion. The Secretary of State, though aided by

able and experienced councillors, has not the same opportunities for forming a sound opinion on this question that the Government here possesses. And still he has thrown overboard the opinion of the local Government. If this is the way the opinions of the local Government on purely local questions are to be treated, can they have the heart to project improvement and reform internal administration? This is really governing India by England with a vengeance.

ANSWERS TO DR. HUNTER.

I.

THE NEW QUARTERLY MAGAZINE.

THE NEW QUARTERLY MAGAZINE has already established its footing among the London periodicals. The October number of this periodical has a remarkable article under the head of "Indian's Need and England's duty." Although that article had been written and published before Dr. Hunter's lecture had appeared, it comes in part as an answer to the learned doctor. It is written in such an enlightened, sound, kindly and generous spirit that we wish we could give it *in extenso*, but we regret we have not space for it. We will, however, give a few extracts from which the reader will perceive that the writer, who has evidently a personal acquaintance with his subject, has reproduced many of our own ideas regarding Indian administration with a force and authority, which we for obvious reasons could not assume. The writer starts with a noble conception of England's duties to India. He says: "The Gordian knot of Indian administration admits of but one solution. India's interest is England's duty: this principle is the established basis of our relationship henceforward between the two countries; it has passed through the twilight of discussion into the full blaze of conviction and reality. The time has passed for subterfuge or compromise. National pride, imperial instincts, patriotic self-aggrandisement—by whatsoever name or impulse we have gloried in India as the brightest jewel of the British crown—these we must surrender with other outworn shibboleths of a bygone age." Again: "We must accept the fundamental doctrine of modern social life, the subordination of politics to morals. We must test our political action by moral considerations, allowing that for the State as well as for individuals it is the question, not of rights, but of duties that must take precedence. The policy of the future, based on the duty of England and the interest of India, is a policy of national self-sacrifice, voluntary restitution, and disinterested moderation." Proceeding on these principles the writer remarks: "Actuated by commercial and political motives, we have conquered India, and it will generally be admitted that the annals of that conquest shed no particular lustre on our arms. No adequate justification has ever been brought forward in its behalf." The writer advocates the abandonment of India by England, but he would not enforce the consummation till India is in a position to govern herself. "India," he says, "is a tutelage unexampled in history, and we have incurred responsibilities on its account not lightly to be set aside. To evacuate India immediately, and without due precautions, would, as has been well said, be to act like a man who should kidnap a child, and then in a fit of repentance abandon him in a tiger jungle. Nevertheless, admitting these conditions as we fully do, it remains to accept unflinchingly the policy of abandonment; sooner or later India must again take her old rank among the nations of the East as an independent country, and all our efforts should be devoted to facilitating her progress to freedom. It is but anticipating the inevitable accomplishment of her destiny. Not in mere vague talk as heretofore, but strenuously and of set purpose, it should now be the principal object of our Indian Government to address itself to the speedy and peaceful liquidation of its concerns and the reconstruction of native administrations in its own place." Long years, we must confess must pass away before the consummation desired can be achieved, but at the same time we agree with the writer that England ought to govern India with a view to qualify her for self-rule. The writer makes some just and pertinent observations on the financial policy of the Government of India. He says:

To meet this expenditure, which the country does not require and the people cannot afford, new taxes have to be imposed and new laws perpetually enforced; we have been doing nothing but devising taxes since the great mutiny. The country calls for rest; but we insist upon the continuance of an unparalelled era of fiscal disquietude. 'We have had,' writes a recent Calcutta Reviewer, 'in ten years six different Stamp Acts—the second tinkering the first, the third repealing both, the fourth repealing half the third, the fifth repealing the other half, the sixth repealing the fourth, and all these six ignoring the previous old one which had done duty for half a century.' Assessed taxes have been seven times recast and each modification has involved a new harassing series of assessments of incomes. The municipal laws are designed to afford innumerable opportunities for taxation. The salt tax has been raised, and it is stated to amount to eighteen times the price of the article in Cheshire. The imposition of local cesses is, rightly or wrongly, regarded as a direct breach of faith on the part of Government towards the most influential section of the native community. Resettlements and survey, with their symbols of oppression, the measuring rod and compass; the irritation of incessant local inquiries for land underassessed, however small; the realisation of Government demands by process of attachment, and the unbending severity of the sale law—all these are measures now resorted to with greater frequency than formerly, with greater harshness and more persistence. The ryots cry aloud for bread, and we have given them a volume of new laws to comfort them. The statute-book grows exceedingly. From an object of wonder it becomes an object of suspicion and distrust. It is vain to to appeal to our good intentions. The people judge those intentions by what they can see of their effect in practice, and find them bad. Ever since the income tax has been personally collected by district and subdivisional officers, there has been a general distrust of the sincerity of our paternal Government. It is useless to affirm that where there is a civilised government you must trust that government to some extent. It is not to the point that, in the opinion of a distinguished Lieutenant-Governor, the Government is not blameworthy, or indeed, that it is 'one of the fairest Governments in the world.' The one truth is that we are mistrusted by our subject people, and that the natives of India do not hesitate to accuse the Government of systematically abusing its powers 'What next and next? and 'Why and wherefore?' are not unreasonable questions to be put by tax-payers; and when the answer vouchsafed is unintelligible to the questioner who has to pay nevertheless, is it surprising that the motives of the tax-gatherer should be subjected to suspicion?

With regard to direct taxation the writer remarks:

In particular it must be said that the direct taxation of recent years is the most open to objection. It is the disastrous nature of direct taxation neither to correct nor modify its own defects, and even when most moderate in its incidence, to influence indirectly all orders and ranks of the community. The operations of the income tax, of the certificate tax, and now of the license tax—which falls so low as to include within its grasp incomes of only four shillings a week—have created a sense of uneasiness, a feeling of insecurity and dissatisfaction, and a general distrust of the officers of Government. The annual advent of the magisterial winter tour is anticipated with dread: the presence of the camp in the village is watched with terror. The good old times are gone when the fair-haired magistrate, in all the flush of enthusiasm of his work the day's toil ended, the last paper signed and the troubles of the court at rest would break into familiar conversation with the grey-bearded householders of the village, garrulous old men, gossiping of many things—the quarrels of their landlord, the dacoity in neighbouring dwelling the rice crop, gathered in the garner, the dry rot in the ripening chilies the pestilence in April, the cattle plague in March, the rates of rent and labour when they were young, the rise of the river during the late rains and the crumbling of its banks, and the loss of all the spring indigo that grew upon them—these times are gone; and in their stead the same old householder with three ploughs, asseverating by all he holds most sacred that he has but one; his flocks and ample herds that were the pride of his caste-fellows have dwindled down to few wretched bullocks, the rent roll that was eighty rupees has become twenty, the barn that was well stored with paddy is empty—sometimes even wholly removed and its foundations razed; not one word of information, not one look of sympathy, not one expression of confidence, not one friendly voice, there is not an atom of consolation; the pleasure of work is blighted—'the cherisher of his people is an income tax-gatherer,—the oppressor of the poor.'

The writer thus paints the modern Indian civilian:

The members of the Civil Service, when very young and very ignorant of the language, are vested with magisterial powers beyond comparison greater than those possessed by any corresponding functionary under any civilised Government, and being uncontrolled by public opinion, and with little public experience, they are liable from the nature of their duties to be in some measure inclined (though not aware of the inclination) towards undue severity. Frequent is the record of the injustice perpetrated in the remote 'Mofussil' through the hastiness of temper, indiscretion, and inexperience of our young English magistrates. Of the general excellence of their administration; of their energy, probity, sincerity; of the self-denying zeal with which they devote themselves to the public service, there cannot be two opinions. It is superfluous to assert that the high qualities of Englishmen are nowhere more conspicuous than in India; their faults—to which we are by no means blind—are for the most part the faults of youth. But there is no reason why in India more than in any other part of the world, important judicial and executive functions should be discharged by persons of unripe age and it is an obvious reflection in favour of the employment of the natives of the country that they can be vested with the appropriate powers when age and experience may be accepted as a guarantee for the proper exercise of authority. It is apparent also that while natives of mature age will work for less pay than youthful Europeans, their knowledge of the language and customs of the country give them in other respects an immense advantage. Natives do not require to take long furloughs to Europe to recruit their strength; they are not eager for change of district or appointment; they have a more thoughtful appreciation of the sympathies of the people; their thoughts are not unceasingly distracted by interests and associations wholly foreign to their country and the work in hand. However great the merits of European officers may be, they can never be so great as to counterbalance advantages like these. The superiority of the natives of the country in administering law and justice to their own people, is indeed a fact that cannot be seriously disputed and it is partially recognised by the Government in the case of appointments in the judicial service. The high moral virtues and intellectual attainments of Dwarka Nath Mitter have conclusively vindicated the competence of natives to exercise the most responsible judicial functions. He sat for many years upon the Bench of the High Court of Judicature in Bengal. Other native gentlemen might also be mentioned who before and after him have occupied the same post and acquitted themselves with credit. At the same time the judicial appointments in the lowest grade of the service are already filled by natives and there is abundant testimony to show that they discharge their duties with integrity and ability. In the highest departments of the service, as well as in the lowest the employment of natives is admitted to be a successful experiment. It remains only that in place of the highly-paid English members of the Civil Service, native officers should be appointed to the intermediate grade of District or Civil and Sessions Judge. It is possible that this proposal even in India may meet with partial approbation. The Government have already accepted the principle, and are slowly—but far too slowly—carrying it into effect. It is otherwise, however, if any proposal is made to go further, to appoint natives to the higher executive offices—to appoint natives magistrates and collectors as well as native civil and sessions judges. When recommendations are made for appointing natives to judicial posts there seems to be an idea underlying the proposal to the effect that this branch of the service chiefly demands those intellectual qualities in which natives excel, whereas the executive branch demands qualities other than intellectual, such as energy, decision, self-reliance power of combination and organisation, of managing men and so forth which are deemed to be qualities as yet imperfectly developed in natives. Therefore it seems to be thought better to refrain from placing natives in the higher class of executive posts which according to this view ought to be reserved almost exclusively for Europeans. This is a fair statement of the argument of persons opposed to any reform in the present system. The natives are assumed to be unfit to have charge of districts. They have never been tried, but it is convenient to assume that all Englishmen are cool and wise in danger, while no natives are so, and that consequently every Englishman and no native is competent to be entrusted with independent charge. Although natives fill many executive posts short of the charge of a district with credit and advantage, no native has yet been appointed to that cardinal office which is held to test a man's fitness for independent command. We choose to assume that the natives are deficient in administrative qualifications, and are careful not to afford them an opportunity to prove the contrary. We proscribe the whole nation from all the higher official posts and offer thereby as bitter an insult to the national feeling as can be imagined. By a process of the grossest self-adulation, we persuade ourselves to believe that the natives are only useful as ministerial servants but that the work of a district, if it is to be done at all, demands the supervision of an English officer. So easily do we allow our self-interest to lead us into insincerity. The truth is that the natives are, as of course they must be, the back-bone of our administration. The burden and heat of the day are already in all cases borne by native subordinates and in the not uncommon event of an incompetent European being in charge of a district, the whole of the work is invariably discharged by his native deputies and clerks. To say that the natives are devoid of administrative qualities is a calumny. To assert that as a nation they are incapable of self-government is to libel a great people.

It will be seen that the writer takes a very broad and enlightened view of England's duties to India and forms a very generous estimate of the Indian's capacity. If all England would look through the spectacles of such well-informed and impartial men as the writer of this article, India would have little to complain of. He enumerates several reasons why the Indian Civilian of the present day has so little sympathy with the children of the soil. He remarks:

The official mind is embittered by memories of the mutiny, and the increased worry of administering new taxes and of yielding vastly more work under more arduous conditions. The sympathies of the new officials are thus less kindly at the present day than they were a few years ago, when the affairs of the country were controlled by the fathers of the present generation. The tendency is to degenerate into indifference and from indifference into dislike. There is, so to speak, more reciprocity of dislike in India than there was. It is a common complaint that officials now-a-days have less consideration for the feelings of native gentlemen than in former times. Fresh from their studies almost at once placed in a position of trust and power, with no knowledge of men or the habits of Indian social life, often without the smallest amount of tact for ruling or leading men, they surrender themselves habitually, when in the society of natives to an insolent demeanour of assumed superiority. A young magistrate who can maintain the dignity of his office with courtesy and conciliation is always respected; and in such a case it will invariably be found that the administration of local interests by means of native co-operation is a marked success. But in the majority of cases—and unfortunately they are the majority—the proceedings of committees benevolently designed by Government to bring together Europeans and natives as much as possible for the management of business are conducted throughout with hectoring language and in a bullying tone and a native commissioner who ventures to evince any independence of character or to oppose an opinion of the chairman, may consider himself lucky if he escapes without personal contumely or insult. Native gentlemen go away silenty; they rarely say what they feel; they would be horrified at anything like a scene; but they think and talk among themselves and their feelings we may be sure are the reverse of respectful to our vaunted rule. At the same time we find in private life an almost universal use of irritating expressions in regard to natives which are not the less offensive when they proceed from persons who hold an official position and have in other

respects the outward seeming of English gentlemen. Among women and children, who are more rapidly demoralised than men by contact with a lower state of civilisation the abuse of 'those horrid natives' is usual. Among men how often do we hear the term 'nigger' applied without any indication of anger or intentional contempt, but as though it were the proper designation of the natives of the country? Even with those who do not use this term the sentiment that prompts its use is not wholly set aside.

The political situation in India has become intolerable, and demands from us morally as well as materially some decisive and immediate treatment. The conditions of our occupation combine to show increased difficulties in administration arising from financial pressure; a waning enthusiasm on the part of our English rulers occasioned by a livelier consciousness of the drawbacks of Indian life; a greater friction between the governors and governed, attributable to many causes, but especially to growing arrogance in thought and language by the ruling race.

It is a good sign of the times when the leaders of English thought write in such enlightened and generous spirit as above. We do not expect that there would be at once a change in the policy of our rulers or in their personal demeanour, but the thoughts and writings we notice cannot but act upon the English mind, and when the national head of England is once roused to a sense of duty to the subject millions of India, her sons in India cannot long remain neglectful of their obligations to both the mother and foster countries.

II.

MR. FORSTERS' SPEECH.

AT the Liberal Demonstration at Leeds Mr. Forsters spoke about India, and he directly answered Dr. Hunter. He denounced the Affghan policy, but he did not dwell upon the past. He said, "the war against Shere Ali was unjust and unnecessary." He then went on: "The Government have two courses before them. They may withdraw, as they did in 1842, after avenging the death of our heroic envoy and his heroic companions, whose lives certainly were sacrificed by the Ministers who sent them to Kabul, reckless alike of past experience and present advice, or they may do what I fear they are doing—they may annex Affghansthan or a large part of it. Now we shall hear of occupation—occupation I think is the word. There are some people who suppose we could keep our troops in Affghansthan without annexation. I believe that to be impossible. What would the annexation of Affghansthan or a large portion of it mean? It would mean an enormous cost at first. We need not press so much about that. We Englishmen, I suppose, will pay the cost. It is very well that we should pay it. It is well that we should find out the meaning of these Indian wars. But I suppose it will be very difficult to make Englishmen pay for the permanent cost of keeping Affghansthan down. What does that mean? We have heard very often what Russia had to do with Circassia—the millions of money, and the hundreds of thousands of lives spent in keeping the Circassians down." In the presence of recent events the question of the future of Affghansthan may be set aside. But the question of the payment of the cost of the Affghan war is all-important, and the opinions of the Liberal party upon it have great practical value. Mr. Forsters remarked: "I do not believe if the question comes, "Ought we to impose upon India the task and the cost of keeping the Affghans down and can she fulfill that task?" I believe she has not the money, and I believe that she would not furnish the men." But Mr. Forsters said that the real danger to India was not from within but from without. He continued:

"I believe the real danger to India to be not the march of Russia, or their attempt to march, on Merv. There is another and greater danger than that. The danger to India is that the Indian people are overtaxed and distressed, and may be discontented. (Hear.) I dare say you read the other day an interesting lecture, and articles in various newspapers on that lecture, by Dr. Hunter, on the good we have done in India. I believe in many respects we have done a deal of good there, and I do not say that any one could have been more anxious that that should be so than the past administrators in India have been—from the Governor-Generals downwards to the humblest servants of the Crown. But, after all, there are one or two facts—unpleasant facts, but self-evident facts, so self-evident that, although Indian authorities differ on some points, they do not differ upon this; the fact remains that, having ruled India for more than a hundred years, we have increased taxation to such a point that the country is taxed to the utmost. It is taxed not merely to an extent that is reasonable and what the people are willing to pay, but we have imposed upon them what they cannot pay. Now, that is not a result to our hundred years' rule which is comfortable to our consciences and satisfactory to our self-esteem, or which is a good omen for our future rule over that distant country. (Hear, hear.) But so it is. I am not going to trouble you with figures beyond what will only take me one minute to give. But I have looked into the Government statistics of India. They go back to 1840. The expenditure of the Indian Government in 1840 was £22,000,000. In 1878 it was £62,000,000. ("Shame.") The population is certainly greater, but the population has not increased in anything like the proportion in which the taxation has increased. The taxation per head is more than double now what it was in 1840. (Shame.) The debt of India in 1840 was less than £30,000,000, now it is close upon £140,000,000. The other fact is this—that we have had in India during our rule, and especially recently, some of the most terrible famines that history records. I do not deny that we have given peace and order to India, and that the check upon the population which existed before in the shape of civil war and invasion have been removed; but we have not removed one very effective check to population—that is, famine. It is no use blinding ourselves to the truth. Under our rule in India there are law and order, but the people starve. Now, then, I say there is the real danger to India—not the Russian raids upon Kabul, not the Russian troops upon the Caspian, but the tax-gatherer and the usurer in her plains. Was this a time when we should attempt to impose those burdens upon the people of India? We are often charged with apathy with regard to India. I wish I could find words to express my anxiety with regard to India Comparatively speaking it is in India only that this Government, or any Government, can do this country great harm; reforms may be delayed, but first or last they will come. Our finances may be mismanaged, but England is rich. Our Foreign Secretary may humiliate us with secret agreements on the Continent, may even embroil us in Continental disputes; but, after all, England is safe from invasion. But bad government in India means either her loss at tremendous disgrace to ourselves or, in order to maintain our rule, such sacrifices as would test even our endurance and our strength. (Cheers.)"

We need not repeat that there can be no difference of opinion as to the blessings of British rule in India upon which Dr. Hunter laid so much stress. But the question as we remarked before is not what England has done for India, but whether she has done all that was expected of her, and whether she is now doing what she ought to do. Dr. Hunter practically admitted this fact in his second lecture. He said, "at present there was a wide-spread feeling among the natives that the finances of India were sometimes dealt with in the interests of England. While India had been struggling against deficit, she had been deprived of an important source of taxation, not because that taxation was unpopular with the Indian people, but because it was obnoxious to a great manufacturing interest here. During the same time, the armies of India had been employed in Abyssinia, in the Mediterranean, and in Affghansthan, to carry out the policy of England, but not entirely at the English expense. He advocated a Representative Council for India. He remarked: "He looked forward to the time when there would be a representative council of India, which should assist the Viceroy in the task of government, as his Legislative Council now assisted him in the task of law-making. But such a council would only be safe if England made up her mind to do her duty by the Indian people. For one of the first functions of such a council would be the supervision of the Indian finances. The moment that a genuine Representative Council was created in India this feeling of soreness and irritation on the part of the natives with regard to the expenditure of their revenues would find a voice. England therefore, could grant representative institutions to India only if the English nation was determined to deal honestly with the vast and complicated interests of her Indian subjects." "I feel sure," Dr. Hunter concluded, "that the British nation has only to realize the facts in order to do justice. Our history in India has been chequered by occasional mistakes, but on the whole it forms a splendid narrative of empire fairly won and honestly governed in the interests of the people." No one for a moment questions the high motives which generally actuate our rulers, but as Dr. Hunter himself admitted, these motives have not always had fair play. The reduction of the cotton duties is one instance in point. The Home military charges of India constitute another notable example. Surely these acts do not shew that India is always governed in the "interests of the people." At this moment a grievous and odious impost is about to be imposed upon the people of India in the face of a substantial surplus, and why? Evidently with a view to pave the way to the total repeal of the cotton duties. When such bare-faced acts of partiality are committed, the people, who suffer, cannot but complain.

INDIAN WHEAT.

IT MAY be in the recollection of the reader that the important question of developing the export trade in Indian wheat occupied the attention of the Government of India in the beginning of 1877, the Secretary of State having requested information on certain points connected with that subject. Looking to the dimensions to which this trade had already attained the Government of India, in a resolution recorded on 14th March 1877, laid down "that the greatest care should be taken by every body interested in the trade, from the cultivator to the shipper, to prevent any cause for complaint regarding the quality of the grain exported." The Local Governments and Administrations were directed to supply samples of chief varieties of the grain cultivated in their respective provinces for transmission to England, as also full information shewing the main features of the cultivation of wheat, its consumption and export, the selling prices, and the probable cost of transport. More than 1,000 samples were collected and sent to England. Of these 827 have been professionally examined there under the direction of Dr. Forbes Watson, who has submitted a report on the results of the examination. At the same time statistics have been collected shewing the area under wheat and the average outturn per acre, the average wholesale prices and the average cost of transport in the various provinces of the Empire. We learn from a recently published resolution of the Supreme Government that the results of the professional examination of the samples of Indian wheat forwarded to England have been very satisfactory. We read that "no less than 101 samples were classed as superior at prices ranging from 44s. to 48s. per quarter of 496lbs. In the 1st and 2nd grades, at prices running from 39s. 6d. to 43s. 6d. there were 358 samples; and 368 were valued at 39s. and under. Only 114 of the specimens were decidedly inferior, and the average price for the whole collection was above the average for the United Kingdom at the time." There can be no doubt that many parts of India are well adapted for the cultivation of wheat of the finest quality. Dr. Forbes Watson in his comprehensive report on the results of the professional examination of the samples of the Indian wheat, which had been forwarded to England observes:—"We often hear of the ignorance of the Indian ryots and of their careless and shiftless modes of cultivation. But a glance at the collection of Indian wheat under report proves that there must exist all over India a class of agriculturists to whom such a reproach cannot apply. It is impossible to avoid the conclusion that the ryots who grew those samples of soft wheat equal to the finest Kubanka, must be as keenly alive to the advantages of selection of seed and of careful cultivation as the most intelligent English farmer." The truth of these observations will be readily acknowledged by those who are acquainted with the actual circumstances of the country. "Whilst as regards cotton and some other produce," rightly says Dr.

Forbes Watson, "the soil and climate of India are rather at a disadvantage with those of other competing countries, as regards wheat India is proved to be admirably adapted for the production of the finest qualities of both soft and hard wheat."

The reader would, perhaps, be startled to hear that next to the United States and Russia, India is the largest wheat-producing country in the world; and there seems to be no reasonable doubt of this. Dr. Forbes Watson gives the following estimate of the wheat outturn of the various countries:

Name of country		Estimated produce in Quarters
United States, about	...	50000000
Russia "	...	35000000
France "	...	30000000
Germany "	...	15000000 to 18000000
Great Britain, Austro-Hungary, Italy, Spain	each about	10000000 to 13000000

The wheat area of the Indian empire comprises the whole of Northern India up to the Gangetic Delta, and, in Southern India, the whole of the table-land above the Ghats. "Wheat," points out the Government of India in the resolution to which we have referred above, "is cultivated in all districts of Sind, the Punjab, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. In Bengal, the true wheat producing country is, as supposed, the valley of the Ganges, though in several other districts there are inferior growings of little breadth yielding no export. In Assam no wheat is grown for exportation. In British Burma, there is a trifling area averaging during the last five years only a little over 28 acres in the frontier district of Thayetmyo; the damp climate of the deltaic tracts being unfavorable for this cultivation." In the Presidency of Madras wheat is not much cultivated, but in the sister Presidency of Bombay the cultivation is general except in three or four districts. Wheat is cultivated throughout Berar, in almost every district of Mysore, and in all parts of the Central Provinces, except Sambulpore. The statistics about production of wheat obtained from the various provinces cannot, of course, be accepted as accurate; but an approximate estimate has been compiled from the imperfect information available. It is as follows:—

Province	Wheat area in acres.	Estimated Outturn in Quarters.
Madras ...	22000	22000
Mysore ...	12500	6800
Bengal ..	1100000	1650000
Central Provinces	3515800	3515800
Berar ...	537800	273400
Bombay ...	1033200	731000
Sind ...	340300	462100
Ajmere ...	16200	19700
N. W. P. and Oudh ...	6081400	8750000
Punjab ...	6670000	11116700
	19328000	26548000

If to this be added the outturn of the Native States, India should perhaps rank as the third producer of wheat in the world. Dr. Forbes Watson writes:—

"In considering the competition in the markets of the world, France, although producing as much as Russia, may be left out of account, as its production, large though it be, barely suffices for its own consumption. Thus, practically, Russia and the United States are the chief competing countries to be considered. But in both countries the area for the production of fine full grown winter wheat is comparatively restricted. Spring wheat forms a very large proportion of the Russian supply, as the greater part of the country is too cold for the growth of winter wheat; in the United States likewise the climate of Minnesota Town, and the other States on the Canadian border in which the cultivation of wheat has been recently so rapidly extending, is only adapted for the growth of spring wheat. This wheat, which is mostly red is not only inferior in quality to a good winter wheat but it produces also much lighter crop not more than 12 to 15 bushesl per acre. Thus however much the cultivation may extend in these parts, it is not likely to affect the supply of the finest varieties such as are grown in some of the older States or in California. The true policy for India, therefore, appears to consist in taking advantage of her climatic position and cultivating for export only the finest varieties, in which the competition of Russia and the far West in America is not likely to be as severe as in the case of the common varieties. Such a policy receives additional recommendation from the fact that the price of the finer varieties is always better kept up and suffers less in a falling market than that of the common wheat. The higher priced wheat will likewise support better the necessarily high charges of transport and freight."

There is no reason why under favourable conditions India should not be capable of rivalling the United States and Russia in the export trade for all the finer qualities of wheat. Complaints are made of the dirty condition of the Indian wheat exported to England as well of its admixture with inferior grains. Of the samples transmitted to London for professional examination, a few only were pronounced to be "in a sound or nearly sound condition." The admixture of wheat with inferior grains is of frequent occurrence. This does not however, proceed from fraudulent motives, as the Government of India rightly held in the resolution recorded on 14 March 1877. The remarks made by Mr. F. N. Wright, Collector of Cawnpore, on this subject, are to the point: "Wheat is grown either mixed with barley when the mixture is known as *gujai*, or with gram and peas, when it is known as *gochanna* or *birra*. The precise object of the cultivator in growing mixed crops has long been a matter in dispute, whether, that is, he expects a larger outturn, or a crop more in demand for local consumption or, as I myself think, he does it to forestall any accident of season. Wheat is a crop highly sensitive to the variation of the weather: parched by the frost, or liable to rust from excessive moisture as wheat is, the harder barley or gram may help the cultivator through the season when an unmixed crop of wheat might have ruined him altogether. Be that as it may, what is wanted is a pure unmixed wheat, and the cultivation of that alone is to be encouraged, and the prejudice or whatever the motive is of the cultivator concerns us only so far as its adoption to a greater or less extent in any given tract affords an indication of the possible supply from that tract of the unmixed gram." We agree with Mr. Wright in thinking that the ryot sows inferior grains with wheat in the same fields, in order that he may have some resource to fall back upon in the event of the failure of the wheat crop. We have no doubt that he will readily give up this habit as soon as he is convinced that he will be a gainer by doing so. The Indian cultivator is not so stupid as he is generally supposed to be. Mr. Caird has shown that he is quite ready to adopt a new crop if it is proved to be remunerative. With a view to enable Indian wheat to be exported to England in a clean condition, Dr. Forbes Watson recommends the introduction of threshing machines. The average Anglo-Indian thinks that the unintelligent conservatism of the ryot is the only abstacle in the way of the carrying out of this recommendation. But it must not be forgotten that the agricultural classes in India are too poor and ignorant to set up machines for the purpose of cleaning and sorting their grain. The cultivator has no capital and he does not understand the working of machines. For the present we cannot expect him to do anything more than to give up his habit of sowing inferior grains in the same field with wheat. As things now stand, the trade must undertake the cleaning and sorting of Indian wheat before it is shipped to England. As the Government of India observed in the resolution of 14th March 1877, "with an increased demand for cleaned and sorted wheat, it will prove remunerative to set up winnowing and sorting machines of the kind referred to in the communication from Her Majesty's Secretary of State at the great centres of shipment viz. Bombay, Kurrachee and Calcutta." The obstacles in the way of development of the Indian wheat trade arising from adulteration and dirt do not seem to us to be difficult of removal. But the position of the trade is always uncertain. It must be borne in mind that no prediction as to the future of wheat exports from this country can be safely made. The English demand, as the Government of India points out, "is the result of complex influences, such as the prices of British wheat, and of food-grains in India, the amount of English exports from Russia, Germany and North America, the rate of exchange on India, and the like, a disturbance or alteration in any of which might produce violent fluctuations." We cannot however conclude without expressing our gratitude to Lord Northbrook for the impetus he gave to the wheat trade of India by his sound commercial legislation.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN BENGAL.

A VERY important Resolution of the Local Government appears in the *Calcutta Gazette* for the 17th instant. It relates to the Institution for practical training of civil and mechanical engineers. The Resolution states that an experiment has been already made in practical training by allowing passed students of the Civil Engineering classes of the Presidency College to join the workshops of the Calcutta Division and the Akra Brick manufactory for a two years' course of technical instruction; and the result has shewn that there is a demand for such instruction, and that native youths of the middle class and of high caste will without hesitation, work willingly with their own hands at the forge and at the lathe, in the carpenter's shop and in the brick-field, exactly as European apprentices would do. It has been decided to remove the Civil Engineering Branch of the Presidency College to the neighbourhood of the proposed training institution, and with this object houses have been selected at Seebpore near Howrah and a large site acquired on the river bank immediately above those premises. A Committee was appointed to report on the course of construction, who recommend that theoretical branches of the College should be under the supervision and control of the Educational Department and the practical branches under those of the Public Works Department. The institution will be divided into four classes, (1) Civil Engineers, (2) Mechanical Engineers, (3) Civil Overseers, (4) Mechanical Overseers, and a fifth class for draftsmen and a sixth class for the improvement of skilled workmen might be hereafter established. Pupils for the two higher classes would be admitted up to the age of 19 on producing a certificate of having passed the University Entrance Examination, those for the 3rd class between the ages of 15 and 17, and those for the 4th class up to 16; restriction as to age may be relaxed on sufficient cause being shewn. The course for Civil Engineers, which will occupy four years, will comprise Arithmetic, Algebra, Plane Geometry and Conic Sections, Practical or Descriptive Geometry, Trigonometry, Logarithms, and Mensuration, Differential and Integral Calculus, besides the specified branches in Applied Mathematics, Physics, Drawing, Architecture, Surveying and Engineering. The practical work for these classes would consist of three hours daily training in the carpenter's and pattern shop, the smithy's foundry, in the fitting shop, in which the pupils would go through the full Whitworths course; in the cold season the students of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years should go on survey parties. The course for Mechanical Engineers will comprise the same course in pure mathematics as that of the Civil Engineers and a slight varied course in applied mathematics, besides physics, drawing, mechanism, machines and engineering. The pupils of the mechanical engineering class will go through the same course of practical training as the civil engineers, but in the later years of their course their attention would be practically directed to the working up of iron and steel, and to the use of all forms of hand and engine tools employed in the making of machinery; if time could be spared they should work during one cold season with the civil engineering students on a survey party. The committee further recommend that the theoretical work should be got over in four years and the practical work would be the same as that of the engineering classes. For the civil overseers and mechanical overseers the term of years for the full course should be the same as for the higher classes, that is to say five years; but the theoretical standard would not be so high, and the period of practical training would be extended from a year to a year and a half. With regard to mechanical engineers the committee recommend that the departmental examinations should be held at the end of the theoretical course, but the trial certificate will not be granted until the satisfactory completion of the practical course. The class of draftsman would be attached to the educational branch of the institution and would provide for the training, of a superior class of draftsmen and estimators. This class would require no workshop training but it would be found desirable to train some draftsmen in the preparation of mechanical working drawings. In the mistry or artizan class instruction in rough mechanical drawing and the use of scales together with arithmetic, elementary geometry, and the mechanical powers, would be given free of charge to apprentices artizans and mechanics,

whether European, East Indian or native whether employed in the shops or outside.

The Lieutenant Governor approves all the above recommendations, but he would in addition form a small vernacular class for the sons of artizans and mistries; these boys would work regularly in the shops, and would have only a few hours' school training in the vernacular. For the two high engineering classes the fee shall be Rs. 8 per mensem during the four years of their instruction in class, but that existing students of the Civil Engineering class of the Presidency College, who may elect one of the engineering courses in the new institution, may be allowed to continue their studies on a payment of Rs. 5 a month. For civil overseers the charge will be Rs. 3 per mensem during the 3½ years of their instruction in class, and for draftsmen the fee will be the same. No fee will be charged to any student after the completion of his theoretical course. The mechanical overseer class will consist exclusively of regular apprentices, who must be boarders; and the charge for Europeans and Eurasians up to 30 in number will be Rs. 5 per mensem, and for natives and up to 40 in number Rs. 3 per mensem. Apprentices may be received in excess of the prescribed numbers on payment, if Europeans and Eurasians, of the full fee of Rs. 15 per mensem, and if natives of Rs. 8 per mensem. Existing Dehri students will be allowed to continue on the terms on which they were originally received. No charge will be made for instruction to skilled workmen in the mistry or artizan class, or to those boys who join the class for the sons of artizans. The Lieutenant Governor has decided that one scholarship of Rs. 20, three of Rs. 15, and six of Rs. 10 tenable for two years, shall be given annually to students entering the engineer classes of the institution; and that scholarships of the same number and value shall be again open to competition at the end of the 2nd years' course; provided the number of scholarships awarded does not exceed one half the number of candidates presenting themselves for examination. These scholarships may be held simultaneously with those obtained by candidates at the entrance examinations. For the civil overseer classes 10 scholarships of Rs. 7 per mensem, tenable for 3½ years subject to diligence and good conduct, will also be granted annually, subject to the same condition with regard to number as those of the engineer classes. After making some further provisions with regard to stipends and scholarships and the boarding of students the Lieutenant Governor remarks:

It must be clearly understood that the Lieutenant-Governor does not guarantee an appointment in the public service to any one trained in the institution; but he will select the most distinguished students and the most capable apprentices to fill such vacancies as may arise, and will not appoint men in this country to the Public Works Department, or to district appointments, who have not been trained in this school, as soon as qualified men are obtainable from this source.

The Lieutenant-Governor believes that this institution will do more good to the people of this country than any school which has yet been established. It will give native boys of all classes the means of obtaining a thoroughly practical education, and will enable them to leave the beaten track of clerical and ministerial service, for which alone they now care to qualify themselves, and will open to them a large and lucrative professional career. At the same time it will provide a suitable and useful training to European and Eurasian boys in this country, and place them in a position to earn an honorable livelihood in a profession for which they are well adapted.

We have given a brief summary of the Resolution because we consider it of great practical importance. We hope our students will largely avail themselves of this new outlet for a professional career.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

THE FOLLOWING is an abstract of the financial statement made by Sir John Strachey at last Wednesday's sitting of the Vice-regal Council:

Sir John Strachey stated to-day in the Legislative Council the intentions of Government regarding the amendment of license tax. It is not proposed to pass the Bill until after publication of the Budget and considerable changes in the Bill are made, of which the principal are exemption of all persons with incomes below Rupees 500, and limitation of the tax upon non-officials to a maximum of Rupees 800. In other respects the existing acts will remain essentially unchanged but in Bengal and Northern India one class will be added to the present schedule, and traders and professionals included therein will pay an annual fee of Rupees 800. In Bombay, two new classes will be added, paying rupees 500 and 800. In Madras there is no change in the present maximum fee which is thus applied throughout India. Officials will pay one and a half per cent. on salary without limitation. The Viceroy, Governors, Commanders-in-chief, Lieutenant Governors and Members of Council will thus pay more than any traders, an anomaly which can hardly be avoided when the latter are not taxed on actual income. Sir John Strachey declared necessity of permanently maintaining taxation on richer traders and official classes who have hitherto paid little or nothing. He repudiated assertions that fresh burdens were being imposed on the country and said that the result of the present measure would be an equitable readjustment of taxation by which one and three quarters million of relatively poor persons will be exempted from taxation, and the greater part of burden will be transferred to 35,000 persons, mostly comparatively rich officials. The financial result of the whole measure will be loss of one hundred thousand pounds revenue. Prospects of finances are stated to be highly encouraging.

There was a smart debate upon the motion. We reserve comments till we receive the official report.

WE HAVE not yet received our copy of the London *Statesman*. We have, however, seen it, and can testify that it has been brought out in first class style. The getting-up is good, and the matter varied and excellent. It is not a mere newspaper, but a journal of politics and literature. This paper will prove a tower of strength to the India Reform party. We repeat that it deserves the support of all native gentlemen who wish well of their country. The very moderate price charged places it within the reach of all classes of readers.

DESSA was brought up before the Magistrate on the 25th instant. Dr. Mackenzie, who had him under his observation, gave his opinion that he was of unsound mind. The Magistrate passed the following order:

You have been pronounced to be of unsound mind. Therefore further proceedings will be stayed for the present. Your matter will be reported to Government, and until the receipt of that order you will be kept in the Presidency Jail the offence with which you are charged being non-bailable.

THE FAMINE COMMISSIONERS, it seems are too independent to depend upon each other. According to the *Pioneer* Mr. Caird, "without waiting for the arrival, in England, of the colleagues who were engaged at Simla all the summer, digesting the materials collected during the famous tour, has written the report out of his own head, and has published the outline of it in the *Nineteenth Century*. Imagine the feeling with which Mr. Cunningham and Mr. Elliot will peruse this exposition of their views? Mr. Caird's report has already gone up to the Secretary of State. Our contemporary justly asks. Will the other members send in others? With as many reports as there are Commissioners, all pointing, in as many different directions, how clearly marked the future famine policy of the Government of India will be."

COL. JOHNSON, Military Secretary to the Government of India, has communicated to the press a valuable memorandum on the position at Kabul. We are told that during the four days' fighting which preceded the concentration of his troops in the Sherpur position, the losses sustained by Lieutenant-General Roberts out of a force of 7,850 men and 24 guns, including two Gatlings, was 62 killed and 164 wounded, and one mountain gun. We were under an impression that the General had about 5000 effective troops at his disposal, but according to the Military Secretary's statement they number 7,500, composed of—

1 British and 3 Native Cavalry Regiments,
3 British and 6 Native Infantry Regiments,
2 Batteries of Horse and Field Artillery with 12 guns; and
2 Mountain Train Batteries with 9 guns,
2 Gatling guns and 2 companies of Sappers and Miners,

and the latest official health report of troops, British and Native, and followers, states it to be "excellent."

There are also 214 with General Roberts. The position of Sherpur, says Col. Johnson, can be easily held by a garrison of 2,500 men, leaving a division of all arms for employment against the enemy with choice of time, direction, and opportunity, for the delivery of attacks. The troops which at present occupy the line from Jumrud to Jagdallak under Major-General Bright, compose a total strength of all ranks of 12,015. It is believed that the Brigadier-Generals Gough and Arbuthnot will be found sufficient to overcome the opposition which the tribes in their front will certainly offer, and to maintain the communications between Cabul and Gandamak. General Gough's infantry brigade consists of—1 regiment British and 3 regiments Native infantry, or 2,200 of all ranks, and General Arbuthnot's, 2 regiments of British and 3 native infantry, or 3,200 in all. It will be thus seen that there are now in the field a force 22,715 men. In view, however of this force being found insufficient and the consequent need for moving the 3rd Brigade above Gandamak, the needful orders have been issued for the immediate assembly of a reserve division of all arms at Peshawar, to consist of—

1 Brigade of Cavalry,
1 British and 2 Native Regiments; and
1 Battery of Horse Artillery with six guns.
3 Brigades Infantry,
3 British and 7 Native Infantry regiments with 18 guns.

These troops will move at once and be in readiness for any further advance into the Pass, or other point on the frontier, as circumstances may seem to require. There is sufficient carriage at Jhelum to move these troops to Peshawar as they arrive; and the Commissariat are now engaged in purchasing 10,000 camels or their equivalents in mules and ponies for the equipment of the division at Peshawar. If it be considered desirable to make an advance towards Cabul from Candahar, the reserve brigade in the Bolan, consisting of three regiments under Brigadier-General Phayre, can be moved up at once to Pesheen, its place being taken by Brigadier-General Borrowes' brigade of three regiments Bombay Army, already ordered to hold themselves in readiness to move. General Stewart has now under his command along the whole line to Dadur 9,045 effective troops of all arms, 2,376 Europeans, and 6,669 natives, with 62 guns, including a seige train. The Government it will be thus seen has taken prompt steps for the proper disposition of forces. The only difficulties in the way we fear are the inclemency of the season and the inefficacy of our transport arrangements.

Darlington's Pain-Curer has been found to be a certain cure for Pain on the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Toothache, Earache, Deafness of the ear, Neuralgia Colics, Rheumatism, Paralysis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples Freckles, & Eruptions on the skin. May be had retail or wholesale, direct from their Establishment, 49, Dhurrumtollah-street, Calcutta.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 27th December, 1879.

Our market has during the passed week experienced less animation in consequence of the Christmas Holidays, as transactions were only confined to three working days. Holidays at this time of the season when business, almost in every department has been in its full swing, must prove less appreciable than those that are allowed at times when business operations remain slack and less interfered with by holidays.

IMPORTS.

Piece Goods.—In this market there has hardly been any transaction of importance to indicate a change.

Yarns.—Imports 40s continue to be in fair demand at enhanced rates, 50s have begun to attract attention of the weavers and may tend to a fair business. Local Manufactures 20s 16s and 10s have been in better request and prices have further advanced.

EXPORTS.

Indigo.—There were two public sales one on the 22nd instant at the new Mission Row Mart of 980 chests by Messrs. J. Thomas & Co., and the other on the 23rd instant at the old Mint Mart consisting of 535 chests, by Messrs. Wm. Moran & Co. The prices for good qualities suffered a decline of Rs. 30@35 per maund the inferior kinds have almost maintained their privious rates.

Jute.—Operations in this market continue to be steady without any material change in prices, as the season is advancing so the evidence of shortness of the crop is becoming conclusive.

Rice.—There have been some transactions in this market 1000 Bags Seeta for West Indies @ 4-12 per md.
About 1000 tons Gross table for Great Britain at 3-8 @ 4.
" 400 tons Rarce for the Coasts and Columbo at 2-6@2-10.
" 1200 tons Ballam for West Indies, Arab ports and Columbo at 2-10 @ 2-13.
Linseed about 500 tons of small grain 4% refraction for America at 4-13.

JOINT STOCKS AND GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

This market remained very quiet, and transactions were confined to a limited extent.

Closing rates for 4%—92-4
4½%—100-3.

KABUL NEWS.

(From the Press Commissioner).

From General Roberts, Kabul, December 19.—Slight skirmishes with the enemy yesterday; one or two of their principal men were killed. Our loss Lieutenant Sunderland of the 72nd, a private of the 67th foot slightly wounded, and one Sepoy of the 5th P. I. killed. Snow fell during the night, but is disappearing off the southern slopes of the hills. Heliographic

communication with Lutaband for some hours to-day. General Bright, at Jelalabad, reports that a detachment of the 8th N. I. reached Dakka on the 22nd, setting free a detachment of the 23rd, which proceeded to Rasawal, escorting ammunition. The head-quarters of the 3rd B. C. reached Barikal on the 22nd. The head-quarters of the 22nd P. I., and the remainder of the 45th Sikhs, have reached Gandamak. No news of General Gough. Too cloudy for heliographing. The Khugianis are said to be awaiting the turn of events. Quiet at present. Colonel Action reported all quiet at Pezwan on the 21st. A Convoy went on from Pezwan to Jagdalak on the 22nd.

Calcutta, December 23.—General Roberts telegraphs from Kabul, 16th December, received 23rd. "We have been employed last 48 hours completing defences of Sherpur, and are now very secure. Enemy still occupy hills overlooking city, but have not yet ventured into plains. Our cavalry constantly employed reconnoitering; and yesterday afternoon, small column of infantry cleared the close country which intervened between Sherpur and city. Gough's Brigade should be here on 20th. Communication with India should then be restored, as the troops now at Lutaband will remain there and Bhootkhak be reoccupied. Our action yesterday restored confidence in city; the most influential people are with us, and, if necessary to save them, I would attack the enemy at once. I am only waiting for opportunity to strike a crushing blow. If none offers before Gough arrives, I will attack the following day, as I shall be strong enough then to hold the Bala Hissar and other important positions, and also I hope to disperse the enemy. Though I was aware excitement was widespread, I had no reason to suppose such a gathering would take place, nor apparently did any of the Sirdars, or those on whom I have been mainly depending for information. Wali Mahomed and all influential people who joined me on first reaching Kabul, are with me in Sherpur, and it is not in their interests to conceal matters from me. It is evident that strong religious feeling is at the bottom of movement. Molla Mushki Alam was joined by large numbers as he came along and no one probably could have foretold that his following would have been anything like as great as it is at last. The city and large villages in the neighbourhood of Kabul, each furnished their quota, and our force on 14th found itself opposed to such overwhelming numbers that it was necessary to concentrate it to prevent small parties being cut off. This I was fortunately enabled to do before dark. It entailed our giving up the Bala Hissar and other positions commanding the city, but there was no choice. Your Excellency must not suppose that we cannot move out of Sherpur, or that I have any anxiety about the safety of my force, and, collected as we now are, I am quite confident of being able to maintain our position, and beat the enemy whenever I get a chance." From General Roberts, dated Kabul 18th December, received 23rd. "All quiet since last telegram. Enemy appeared shortly before noon on the Siah Sang range and heights West of Sherpur; but were quickly dislodged with some loss. Our casualties, one sepoy 5th Panjab Infantry, slightly wounded, and a Gurkha accidently shot on picquet. Weather still cloudy. No heliographic communication possible with Lutaband. Latest date from India by telegraph 13th, by letter 6th December. Wounded are doing well, except Major Cook, 5th Gurkhas. Majority of Ghilzais do not seem at present to have taken very active part in combination against us; and, as Gough's Brigade is doubtless advancing, the Eastern Ghilzais will probably keep quiet until they see the result of more troops reaching Kabul. Asmatulla Khan has sent word to the enemy that he will soon join them with 5,000 men. His neighbour, Osman Khan of Tagoo, having been killed, and a good many followers dispersed. Asmatulla may hesitate to come far from his country. He will, I think, if Gandamak and Jagdalak are strongly held. No news having been received from Khaibar line since 13th instant, when I got a short telegram from General Gough, saying he would advance rapidly on Kabul, I am doing all I can to break up the combination, but nothing short of driving off the enemy by force from the neighbourhood of Kabul will have any real effect. Once I have done that, and reasserted our supremacy, the country will doubtless quiet down. Mahomed Jan, the Wardak General, and practical leader of the enemy, has proclaimed Mussa Khan, eldest son of Yakub Khan, Amir. It is reported that Yakub Khan's wife has distributed large sums of money to the enemy, and that the houses and property of Wali Mahomed, and other Sirdars with me, have been plundered."

General Roberts telegraphs from Kabul, 20th December, received 23rd thus:—Colonel Hudson heliographs from Lataband that letters and telegrams despatched from Kabul on 18th and 19th instant have reached. I hope therefore, that Your Excellencies are now in possession of all that has occurred to date, as I sent copies of all former telegrams by messengers of yesterday and day before. I also hope General Gough will advance without further delay. Sixty yaboos, laden with grain, travelled safely last night from this to Lataband, showing that the road so far is open. The position here is unchanged, the enemy lost several men yesterday. Our casualties were Lieutenant Montanaro R. A., dangerously wounded; six of 67th, one of 9th Lancers, one of 12th Bengal Cavalry, six of 3rd Sikhs and two camp followers all wounded. Major Cook of 5th Gurkhas, I deeply regret to report, died yesterday of his wounds. I hope officers will be sent to replace casualties; four are required for artillery, two for I. A., and one for each mountain battery. Bailward having been invalided, the 9th Lancers is very short of officers. The 12th and 14th Cavalry, 3rd Sikhs, 5th Gurkhas, each require two officers. Captain Connellan and Lieutenant Tuite, 67th, and Captain Frome, 72nd, are laid up with smallpox. No assistance can be afforded by British to Native Regiments. Lieutenant Liddell has been attached temporarily to the Horse Artillery Battery, Sir Charles Wolseley of Yeomanry Cavalry, to 9th Lancers. For 12th and 14th Cavalry, trained Cavalry Officers should, if possible, be sent. There are only 4 per cent. British troops, sick and including wounded little over 6 per cent. Proportions of Native troops will be telegraphed tomorrow. Pneumonia is on the increase owing to great cold and exposure; but considering everything, the force is very healthy, sick and wounded well cared for.

22.—General Bright telegraphs from Jelalabad, on the 21st, that 350 men of the 25th Regiment, detail of Artillery, and a detachment of the 22nd P. I. escorting ammunition, are pushing on to Dakka. The head-quarters of the 17th B. C. reached Basawal on the 20th, a company of the Madras Sappers reaching there on the 21st, and remain for work. The head-quarters of the 22nd Panjab Infantry reached Jelalabad on the 21st, with a company of the 27th Panjab Infantry, to relieve the company of the 45th Sikhs, advancing to Gandamak. The head-quarters, 12th Regiment, and 4guns were to reach Jelalabad on the 21st, and the guns go on to Gandamak. It is rumoured that there is a gathering of Mohmands about Dakka. Colonel Boisragon has been ordered to retain two guns, in addition to the R. H. A. guns he has, and a detachment of the 22nd P. I. General Gough reports that his post had been attacked, and his communications harassed by Asmatullah and the Ghilzais, necessitating some fighting along his line; but they had been driven off, with some loss, and he hoped they were dispersing. His casualties are one man mortally, 15 severely, and a few slightly, wounded. It is rumoured that Asmatullah was wounded in the recent attack on General Gough's posts. *From Camp Sperkwait, beyond Thall. dated Thall Dec* 21—The Alisherzais and Mamuzais will pay a fine of Rs. 4,000 each, meanwhile giving hostages. Both Jirgas accompany the force to Thull. The force was to march to Chinarak on the 21st, after blowing up two large towers at Sperkwait. The Arakzai forces dispersed at once on the submission of the Jirgas.

24.—From Jalalabad on the 23rd it is reported all quiet and similar reports have arrived regarding the Afridi, Shinwari and Mohmand tribes. The Zaimukht expeditionary force was arriving at Thall on the 23rd. General Bright, Jelalabad, on the 23rd, reports that a detachment of the 22nd P. I., escorting ammunition reached Barikab. The head-quarters of the 3rd B C. reached Jelalabad four guns reached Rozabad. General Gough was heard of all right close to Lutaband. The convoy reached Jagdalak safely. Everything is quiet still about Jelalabad. Colonel Norman telegraphs from Jagdalak, through Pezwan on the 24th that firing at Kabul for the last 48 hours was reported by General Gough from Sei Baba. Colonel Normans camp was fired into the preceding night, but no harm was done. General Gough was expected to reach Kabul to-day. The mail bags have been received at Jagdalak from Kabul.

25.—Colonel Norman reports from Jagdalak, on the 24th that the Ghilzais had attacked the Jagdalak Kotal in force the previous afternoon, but were beaten back with loss, and dispersed about midnight. Major Thackeray, R. E., commanding at the Kotal, was badly wounded, one *sipahi* and one *kahar* killed, and one *sipahi* wounded. Colonel Acton went out with 400 men and two guns from Pezwan to Major Thackeray, for support. The Ghilzais are reported to have numbered 3,000. General Bright is further strengthening the posts at and beyond Gandamak. Two companies of the 22nd N. I. and a squadron of the 3rd B.C., have left Jelalabad for Gandamak.

26—General Bright reports on the 25th that a convoy of ammunition, &c. has been collected at Gandamak and will be sent off to Kabul as soon as the escort is assembled. Weather cloudy and rainy, preventing heliographic communication. A Jezailchi post, about eight miles from Jelalabad, was attacked the preceding night, and some men reported killed. A streng Cavalry patrol had gone out to enquire. Line otherwise quiet. The political situation to the South, among the Shinwaris and to the North and East, continues good. Mulla Khabil has so far failed to raise disturbance among the Mohmunds, and the Khaiber is all quiet.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS

	Rs.	A.	P.
V. Krishnama Charier, Esq., Madras ...	6	12	0
Secretary Shitabuldee Native Club ...	6	8	0
P. Vencatta Row Esq., Moonsiff, Kadar ...	13	4	0
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" Krishnachunder Sandyal, Sylhet ...	10	0	0
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" Thakoor Kali Sunker Sahoy Zemindar, Kanchee ...	13	4	0

ERRATUM.

For Nobinchunder Sarma, Sylhet Rs. 13-4 Read 13 14 0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*December* 24, 1879.

GENERAL.—Mr. D. W. M. Testro, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted to the Sudder Station of the district of Backergunge.

Major F. Collingridge, Commandant of the Behar Mounted Volunteer Rifle Corps, having resumed charge of his duties on the 8th November 1879, the unexpired portion of the leave granted to him under orders of the 12th November 1878 is cancelled.

Babu Tarini Coomar Ghose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dacca, on leave, is transferred to Maldah.

The Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India has granted the following Officers extensions of leave for the periods mentioned opposite their respective names:—

Mr. J. Posford, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, three months.

Mr. H. B. Beames, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, one month's special leave without pay.

Mr. H. Lee, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Durbhunga, is allowed leave for 14 days under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 21st December 1879.

Babu Khettermohun Mukerjee, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Maldah, is allowed leave for one month under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 5th December 1879.

Babu Gopalchunder Mookerjee, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore, is allowed leave for one month, under Section 13—2, Supplement F to the Civil Leave Code, in extension of that granted to him under orders of the 26th September last.

Mr. H. Holmwood, who has recently been appointed to be a member of the Bengal Civil Service, is appointed to be an Assistant Magistrate and Collector in the Patna division and is posted to the Mozufferpore district.

Mr. T. D. Moran temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is posted temporarily to the district of the 24-Pergunnahs.

Mr. C. A. Samuells is appointed to act, until further orders, as a Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the First Grade in Monghyr, with effect from the forenoon of the 29th ultimo.

The following officers are appointed to act, until further orders as Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors of the Second Grade with effect from the date mentioned opposite their names:—

Mr. J. Pratt, Assistant Magistrate and Collector Purneah from the forenoon of the 2nd December 1879.

" C. A. Wilkins Assistant Magistrate and Collector Gya, from the forenoon of the 4th December 1879.

Mr. R. M. Towers, Officiating Judicial Commissioner of Chota Nagpore, is allowed furlough for ten months under Section 21 of the Civil Leave Code, together with subsidiary leave for twenty-five days under Section 34 of the Code with effect from the date on which he may be relieved by Mr. H. L. Oliphant.

Baboo Kedar Nath Banerjee is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the First Grade in Midnapore, *vice* Mr. J. H. Mendies, resigned.

Mr. G. J. B. T. Dalton is re-appointed temporarily to be a Deputy Commissioner of the Second Grade in Cooch Behar with effect from the forenoon of the 28th October 1879.

Baboo Radhica Lall Shome, temporary Sub-Deputy Collector Julpigoree, is allowed leave for seven days, under Section 4—1, Supplement F to the Civil Leave Code in extension of that granted to him under orders of the 5th instant.

Baboo Protap Chunder Chatterjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Perozepore, Backergunge, is allowed leave for six months under Sections 4 and 16—1, Supplement F to the Civil Leave Code in continuation of that granted to him under orders of the 14th October 1879.

Advertisements.

HOOGHLY BRIDGE TOLLS.

The Commissioners are prepared to receive tenders for farming the tolls collected on the Hooghly Bridge for one year, from the 1st day of March 1880.

Forms of tender and of the agreement to be entered into by intending lessees, setting forth the terms on which the tolls will be let, can be had on application to the Secretary; and the tenders will be received at the office of the Commissioners up to 2 P. M. of January 2nd 1880.

The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender.

A deposit of Rs. 500 must accompany each tender which amount will be returned if the tender is not accepted.

Tenders should be sealed and superscribed "Tender for Hooghly Bridge Tolls."

By order of the Commissioners,
G. H. SIMMONS.
Secretary to the Bridge Commissioners.

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.

9, Esplanade Row, Calcutta.

New Importations of Japanned Ware.

DEED-BOXES, WITH POLISHED TOPS AND TUMBLER LOCKS.

16,	18,	20,	22,	24,	26,	28,	30	inch
Rs. 12-8,	16-0,	18-8, 32,	22-8, 34,	27-0,	32-0, 36 inch.	36-0,	40	each.

Rs. 52-0, 56-0, 62-0 each.

Japanned Air tight Dress-Boxes.

30" by 17" by 13" ... ... Rs. 32 0
33" by 19" by 14½" .. .. ,, 38 0
36" by 21" by 15" ... . ,, 45 0

Cash Boxes, T. E. T's Lock.

No.	0,	1,	2,	3,	4,	5.
Fillet Rs.	12-0	12-8,	13-8,	14-8,	16-0,	17-8 each.
Oak... ,,	12-4,	12-12,	13-12,	14-12,	16-4,	17-12 ,,

Paper Boxes.

Black (T. E. T.'s Lock) Rs.	12-0,	16-0.	20-0,	25-8	each.
Fillet ,, ,, ,,	16-0,	20-0,	20-3,	28-0	each.
Oak ,, ,, ,,	17-0,	20-0,	24-8,	30-0	each.
Black (Barron's ,, ,,	11-0,	14-0,	17-8,	21-8	each.
Fillet ,, ,,	15-0,	17-8,	21-0,	25 0	each.
Black (Tumbler) ,, ,,	8-8,	12-8,	16-0,	20-0	each.
Fillet ,, ,, ,,	11-8,	15-0,	18-8,	23-0	each.

Black Japanned Paper Boxes.

With end wire handles and tumbler locks

		T. E. T. & Co.'s locks.
13¾ by 8¾ by 4⅝ ..	Rs. 8 8	Rs. 13
16½ by 10½ by 5½ ...	,, 11 8	,, 16
19¼ by 22 by 6⅛ ...	,, 16 0	,, 19

Uniform Boxes, very strong.

20" by 12" by 8", 25" by 14" by 10", 28" by 16" by 12."

Rs. 20, 25, 30 each.

Oval Bonnet Boxes.

No.	1,	2,	3.
Rs.	7-8,	8-8,	10. each.

Round Sugar Boxes.

No.	0,	1,	2,	3,	4,	5,	6,
Rs.	1-0,	1-2,	1-4,	1-8,	2 4,	3,	3-12 each.

Ten per cent. discount off the above prices for Cash.

INDIAN MUSEUM.

The Archæological Galleries will be open to the Public from Monday the 22nd Instant.

Superintendent.
JOHN ANDERSON, M. D.,
By order of the Trustees,

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS.

FIRST DOG AND CAT SHOW.

5TH AND 6TH JANUARY 1880.

List of Dogs.

1st Group.—*Wild and Half-reclaimed Dogs hunting in Packs*
1. The Dingo.
2. The Dhole.
3. The Pariah.
4. The Wild Dog of Africa.
5. The American Dog.
6. Other Wild Dogs.

2nd Group.—*Domesticated Dogs hunting chiefly by the eye and killing their game.*
7. The Smooth English Greyhound.
8. The Deer hound.
9. The Wolf Dog.
10. Gaze hound.
11. Matin.
12. Hare-Indian Dog (American).
13. Albanian Greyhound.
14. Grecian Greyhound.
15. Turkish Greyhound.
16. Russian Greyhound.
17. Persian Greyhound.
18. Rampoor Hound.

3rd Group.—*Domesticated Dogs hunting by the Nose and killing their game.*
19. Southern hound.
20. Bloodhound.
21. Staghound.
22. Foxhound.
23. Harrier.
24. Beagle.
25. Otterhound.
26. Great Dane (Boarhound).
27. Dachshund.
28. Fox Terrier.
29. Scotch Terrier.
30. Irish Terrier.
31. Skye Terrier.
32. Dandie Dinmont.
33. English Terrier.
34. Bedlington Terrier.
35. Yorkshire Terrier.

4th Group.—*Domesticated Dogs finding their Game by sent. but not killing it.*
36. Spanish Pointer.
37. Modern English ditto.
38. Portuguese ditto.
39. French ditto.
40. Dalmatian Dog.
41. English Setter.
42. Irish ditto.
43. Black Tan ditto.
44. Welsh ditto.
45. Russian ditto
46. Clumber
47. Sussex } field
48. Norfolk
49. Modern cocker
50. Southern Irish
51. Northern Irish } water
52. English
} Spaniels.
53. Poodle.

5th Group.—*Pastoral and Draught.*
54. English Sheep Dog.
55. German Sheep Dog.
56. Collie (rough and smooth).
57. Drover Dog.
58. Large Wolf Dog.
59. Spitz
60. Chinese Sheep Dog.
61. True Newfoundland.
62. Landseer Newfoundland.
63. Labrador Dog.
64. Esquimaux Dog.
65. Iceland and Lapland Dog.

6th, Group.—*Watch and House Dog.*
66. Bull Dog.
67. English Mastiff.
68. Cuban Mastiff.
69. Mount St. Bernard Dog (rough and smooth.)
70. Thibet Dog.
71. Lion Dog.
72. Shaik Dog.

7th. Group.—*Toy Dogs.*
73. King Charles.
74. Blenheim Spaniel.
75. Maltese Dog.
76. Italian Greyhound.
77. Pug.
78. Chinese and Japanese Dogs.

List of Cats.

1st Group.—*English.*
1. Tortoise Shell.
2. White.
3. Brown.
4. Blue and Silver.
5. Red.
6. Red and White.
7. Spotted.
8. Black-White.
9. Black.
10. Uncommon Colours.

2nd Group.—*Bengali Cats.*
Classes as above ranging from 11 to 20,

3rd Group.—*Persian Cats.*
Classes as above ranging from 21. to 30.

4th Group.—*Angora Cats.*
Classes as above ranging from 31 to 40.

5th Group.—*Cats of other Countries as* :—Malay, Russian, Chinese, Siamese, Burmese, Manx, &c. &c.

PRIZES.

First or Imperial Prize :

This prize is awarded to the best Dog and Cat of all the prized Animals.—Hence two prizes will be given.

Second or Committee Prizes :

These are given to the best Dog and Cat of each Group, hence twelve prizes will be awarded (seven for Dogs and five for Cats).

Third or Ordinary Prizes.

These are given to the best Dog and Cat of *each* class. Hence 78 will be awarded for Dogs and 46 for Cats, in total 124 prizes.

In case of only *one* animal representing its own class, the prize will *not* be awarded to such animal unless it is of superior breed.

Fourth or General Prizes.

These are given to the happiest Dog and Cat family consisting of mother and young ones. Young animals in charge of their mother are admitted *free*. Further a Prize will be awarded to the cleverest Dog and Cat.

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Dated, 21st December, 1879. *Hony. Secy.*

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Report by the Directors

PRESENTED TO THE SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COMPANY, *Held at Edinburgh on Friday 4th April*, 1879.

The Directors submitted the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December, 1878.

Life Business.

During the year there were issued 1034 Policies, assuring £1,034,651, the new Premiums on which amount to £38,,022-17-3.

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It has no fire bars as in the ordinary brass furnaces, but a solid dished bottom instead. Should the crucible leak or the metal be accidentally spilt it runs down into the dished bottom and is there collected in a convenient form for remelting. On account of the blast entering the furnace above the place where the metal would lie there will be no necessity, in the event of an accident, to stop working; the metal will take no harm, but can be removed at night when the dished bottom is opened to clean away the slag and take out the stand. All time usually spent in washing and smelting brass ashes is therefore saved by this arrangement. There is a *great saving in coke.* Much less than half the quantity required in the ordinary [illegible] is necessary in melting in this furnace. *The rapidity of melting*—120 lbs of brass can be run down in half an hour, starting with a cold furnace, subsequent meltings of course being made much more quickly. *Small coke* may be used if a start be given with a bottom of ordinary sized pieces, thus utilising that which for general foundry purposes is useless. *The certainty with which metal can be melted,* it being a well-known fact with casters that with ordinary furnaces, the state of the atmosphere seriously affects the draught and time of fusion. *If the outlet B* is led into a chimney stack the furnace can be worked without a blast, thus obviating the necessity of suspending operations while the fan is not running. After using the furnace, in the event of another heat not being immediately required, it is only requisite to shut off the blast, take out the crucible, and close the lid, and the furnace will keep alight for several hours without the addition of fresh fuel.

Its capabilities (now practically proved by many eminent firms) are as follows :—Previous to his invention of this furnace the Patentee had *four* of the ordinary furnaces with fire bars in them in full work, and one 60 lb. crucible in each, but since adopting this furnace he has dispensed with the ordinary furnaces, and is now working with one patent furnace in their place, using a Morgan's Patent Crucible, 100 lb. size, and doing more work.

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Notice.

In the Calendar of Mail Steamer departures from Bombay during the present year, it is stated that a homeward mail will be despatched from Bombay on the 29th December. The British Post Office has however arranged that there shall be no despatch from Bombay on that date. The last homeward mail of the current year will leave Bombay on Monday the 22nd December, and the first homeward mail of the ensuing year on *Saturday the 3rd January.*

NORTHERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

NOTICE.

On and from 1st January 1880, Sara Station, between Sara Ghaut and Gopalpur; Panchbibi Station, between Jaipur and Hillee, and Mandalghaut Station, between Huldibari and Julpaiguri, will be closed and neither Goods nor Passengers will be booked at or to these stations after midnight of 31st December 1879.

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By order of the Committee,
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